

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

All Graduate Plan B and other Reports

Graduate Studies

5-1978

An Analysis of Trends Affecting Collection Growth at the Merrill Library

Richard Brian Schockmel
Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/gradreports>



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Schockmel, Richard Brian, "An Analysis of Trends Affecting Collection Growth at the Merrill Library" (1978). *All Graduate Plan B and other Reports*. 760.
<https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/gradreports/760>

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Graduate Studies at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in All Graduate Plan B and other Reports by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usu.edu.



378 2
50-6
C 2

AN ANALYSIS OF TRENDS AFFECTING COLLECTION
GROWTH AT THE MERRILL LIBRARY

by

Richard Brian Schockmel

A report submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree

of

MASTER OF EDUCATION

in

Instructional Media

Plan B

Approved:

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
Logan, Utah

1978

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF TABLES	iv
LIST OF FIGURES	vi
INTRODUCTION	1
Origin and Nature of the Problem	1
Objectives of the Study	2
Method of Procedure	2
Scope of the Study	3
THE GROWTH OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COLLECTIONS	5
Historical Perspective	5
Early Cooperative Programs	9
A New Era of Cooperation	12
Federal Aid for Academic Libraries	13
Recent Decline in Library Growth Rates	16
THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY	21
Comparison with National Trends	21
Origins of Utah State University	23
Growth of the College Library	25
Transition from College to University Library	27
Recent Collection Growth	36
THE PRICE OF LIBRARY MATERIALS	43
Published Sources of Price Data	43
Merrill Library Prices	46
Effects of Rising Prices	52
FACING THE EROSION OF LIBRARY PURCHASING POWER	56
De-acquisitions	56
De-acquisitions at the Merrill Library	60
Sharing Utah's Library Resources	71
Buying Serials at the Least Possible Price	76

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

	Page
COLLECTION SIZE IN TIMES OF BUDGET RETRENCHMENT . . .	79
Evaluating the Collection at the Merrill Library . .	79
Comparison of the Holdings of the Merrill Library with the Standards for College Libraries . . .	86
Merrill Library Acquisitions budgets	89
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	93
Objectives	93
Results	93
Recommendations	101
BIBLIOGRAPHY	107
APPENDIXES	113
Appendix A. Tabulation of Faculty Priority Rankings for the USU Serial Subscriptions Compiled During the Serials Review, 1977	114
Appendix B. Correlation of Merrill Library Holdings to ACRL Criteria for Volumes	121
Appendix C. Merrill Library and Learning Resources Program Budget, 1973-74 through 1978-79 . .	127

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1. Distribution of funds under Title II-A	15
2. Growth of the Agricultural College of Utah Library, 1900-1940: Biennial acquisitions expenditures and cumulative holdings	28
3. Growth of the Utah State University Library, 1940-41 to 1961-62, annual acquisitions expenditures, cumulative holdings and the ratio of total library expenditures to total education and general university expenditures	30
4. Growth of the Merrill Library, 1962-63 to 1976-77; acquisitions expenditures and cumulative holdings	38
5. Average prices of American periodicals compared to the Consumer Price Index, 1970-1976	44
6. Average prices and price indexes for U.S. periodicals by selected subject area, 1970-1976	45
7. Average prices of USU periodicals, serial services and newspapers, 1976	48
8. Average prices of Merrill Library periodicals and serial services by selected subject category, 1976	50
9. Average prices and annual price increases for combined Merrill Library periodicals and serial services by subject, 1974-1976	51
10. Number and price of serials included on the candidates for cancellation list by subject	70
11. Percentage of current USU paid serial subscriptions duplicated at UofU and/or BYU	74
12. Formula for determining the relevant number of volumes needed by the Merrill Library to meet ACRL standards, Fall, 1977	87

LIST OF TABLES (Continued)

Table	Page
13. Merrill Library acquisitions budgets, 1971-72 through 1976-77	90
14. Percentage of title and expenditure distribu- tion for the Merrill Library's 1976-77 serial subscriptions	97
15. Tabulation of faculty priority rankings for USU paid subscriptions compiled during the serials review, 1977	115
16. Merrill Library holdings, June 30, 1977	122
17. Merrill Library and Learning Resources Program Budget, 1973-74 through 1978-79	128

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
1. Number of volumes held by American college and university libraries, 1969-1976	17
2. Annual percentage increases in the volume growth of American college and university library collections, 1968-69 to 1975-76	19
3. Annual percentage increases in the classified volume growth of the USU Merrill Library 1968-69 to 1976-77	22
4. Merrill Library expenditures for books and serials, 1950-1976	53
5. Cumulative distribution of average faculty ratings compiled during the serials review, 1977	68

INTRODUCTION .

Origin and Nature of the Problem

The impetus for this paper arose out of a concern for the future of acquisitions at the Merrill Library. The common denominator between all disciplines represented in a university environment, the accumulation and dissemination of knowledge, is embodied in the academic library. The quest for knowledge often begins in the library; and the results of scholarly investigations are deposited on its shelves. As the quantity of published information increases, the importance of library collections as a vital element in the university community becomes increasingly evident.

In recent years, American academic library collections have suffered in the face of double-digit inflation. The Merrill Library is also experiencing this inflation-born atrophy of acquisitions. The purpose of the study is to examine the erosion of library purchasing power in terms of its effects upon library collections and the collection of the Merrill Library in particular. Central to this purpose is the way in which the Merrill Library has attempted to cope with the rising price of library materials.

The data used for the basis of this study were derived from the published literature and from the reports of Utah State University and the Merrill Library. The Subject Bibliography of Current Serials,

1976, prepared by the Merrill Library provided the basic data for several sections dealing with serial publications.¹

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the historical development of American academic library collections.
2. To demonstrate the effects of escalating prices for library materials on the acquisitions patterns of the Merrill Library.
3. To analyze methods employed to reduce the effects of inflationary prices for library materials.
4. To report trends and conditions that may influence the future of acquisitions at the Merrill Library.

Method of Procedure

Data for the historical chapter was drawn largely from a search of the literature. Primary sources were consulted for data on growth of American libraries. Nationally reported information on the price of library materials was compared with actual experience at the Merrill Library.

Two methods were used to demonstrate the effects of escalating prices of library materials on the acquisitions patterns of the Merrill Library. The first involved an analysis of library

¹Utah State University, Merrill Library, Subject Bibliography of Current Serials, 1976 (Logan, Utah, USU Merrill Library, 1976), 578 p. Hereafter referred to as: Subject Bibliography of Current Serials.

expenditures for books and serials and the second evaluated the actual holdings of the Merrill Library.

The concept of "de-acquisitions" was emphasized in the chapter describing methods used to face the erosion of library purchasing power. This is a term of recent origin which encompasses activities traditionally known as weeding library collections. The Merrill Library's recent activities in this direction were used as the basis for discussion. The current concern over the differentiation of prices for serials is also discussed.

The trends and conditions which may influence the future of library acquisitions are reported in various sections of the text. The basic data for determining these trends were drawn from a review of the literature. Primary data from the Merrill Library were also used in this regard.

Scope of the Study

There are certain limitations inherent in any study concerned with examining conditions and trends which may affect the future. Robert Nisbet noted: "There are two equally important principles to be guided by in all matters affecting the present and the future. (1) It is utterly impossible to predict the future. (2) It is utterly impossible to avoid trying to predict the future."¹ This study can make no claim at predicting the future of acquisitions at the Merrill Library, yet an examination of the present conditions

¹ Robert Nisbet, "The Liberal Arts in the Year 2000," in *Proceedings, Reports, and Addresses*, ed. by Charles D. Hounshel (Atlanta, Southern University Conference, 1974), p. 16.

necessarily points to certain trends, and these trends lead one to wonder about their possible effects in the future.

THE GROWTH OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Historical Perspective

During their recent bicentennial celebrations, Americans were reminded of the remarkable development that their nation experienced since its inception. American libraries shared a part in this spectacular growth. By the turn of the nineteenth century there were about 100 libraries containing an estimated 50,000 volumes in the United States. Libraries of this era were small in comparison to modern standards. In 1790 Harvard College listed only 12,000 volumes while Yale College held a mere 2,700 volumes.¹

In America's centennial year, the United States Bureau of Education surveyed all libraries possessing more than 300 volumes each and reported a combined total of over 12,376,473 volumes held by the 3,723 libraries surveyed. Yearly expenditures of \$572,477.00 for books, periodicals and binding were providing for an annual acquisition of 441,722 volumes. Harvard and Yale were the largest

¹Charles Ammi Cutter, "The Development of Public Libraries;" In: Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1900, vol. 2, U.S., Congress, House, H. Doc. 5, 56th Cong., 2nd Sess., 1901, pp. 1352-1359. Cutter's report, reprinted from the New York Evening Post, January 12, 1901, surveys the history of public library development in the United States comparing book stock, subject coverage, buildings and circulation. The first year for aggregate reporting was 1801. Sixty-four libraries were mentioned which were intended for popular use. Including the several parochial libraries which survived the revolution, Cutter estimated a total of one hundred libraries in 1801.

university libraries in the nation with holdings of 227,000 volumes and 114,000 volumes respectively.¹

In the span of three-quarters of a century the total holdings of American libraries had grown twenty-four fold. The number of libraries had grown by over 300 percent. The two largest university libraries had established a trend for their particular type of institution by expanding their collections at a combined average rate of over 2,000 percent.

Twenty-five years later, the United States Commissioner of Education reported that the total library holdings in 1900 were 44,591,851 volumes. There had been nearly a four fold increase over the period of a quarter of a century. Expenditures for books increased at an even greater rate. The number of libraries holding over 300 volumes had more than doubled, while the libraries surveyed at more than 1,000 volumes numbered 5,383. Harvard reported 560,000 total volumes for the turn of the century and Yale

¹U.S., Congress, House, Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1876, Vol. 2, H. Exec. Doc. 1, 44th Cong., 1st Sess., 1877, pp. cxxii-cxxiv. The Commissioner's report included survey data on seventy-six libraries from which information was received too late for inclusion in the pioneer compendium: "General Statistics of all Public Libraries in the United States;" In: Public Libraries in the United States of America, U.S., Bureau of Education, Special Report, pt. 1, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1876), pp. 1010-1174.

listed 285,000 total volumes, both enlarging their collections over twice their centennial size.¹

With the establishment in 1936 of the Library Services Division of the United States Office of Education, statistics on American libraries were collected in a central clearinghouse and on a much more reliable basis than ever before. In 1940, the Library Services Division listed more than 38,000 libraries in the United States, distributing them along the following categories: 6,500 public libraries; 28,000 or more centralized school libraries; 1,600 university and college libraries; 250 state and federal libraries; and 1,500 special libraries.²

This marked increase in the number of libraries listed in 1940 over those surveyed forty years earlier was due, in part, to the rapid growth of the school library which really only began to develop during the first decade of the twentieth century.³

¹U.S., Congress, House, Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1900, Vol. 2, H. Doc. 5, 56th Cong., 2nd Sess., 1901, pp. 963-1164. The report surveyed libraries with over 1,000 volumes. A total of 9,261 libraries were listed, however, as having over 300 volumes. Only 2,972 libraries completed the information section dealing with expenditures, so the total figure of \$2,055,670.00 for book expenditures may be considered low.

²U.S., Federal Security Agency, Office of Education, Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1941-42, Vol. 2, chap. 2, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1944), pp. 38-42.

³Elmer D. Johnson, Communication (Metachen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1973), pp. 249-254. In 1900 there were few public school libraries with workable collections, but by 1913, 3,265 were reported with collections over 1,000 volumes. In 1935, 27,724 schools listed libraries and by 1940, the 38,000 centralized school libraries surveyed by the Library Service Division held over 49,000,000 volumes.

Over 6,800 public libraries were surveyed in 1940 and reported a total book stock of more than 104,000,000 volumes. The 1,699 college and university libraries studied had a total volume count of 7,166,801. Expenditures for books, periodicals and binding of \$6,530,895.00 were used to acquire 3,194,578 volumes for college and university libraries in 1940.¹

Harvard added 79,888 volumes during the last year before the United States entered into the second World War, expending \$127,233 for these acquisitions. The total collection of 4,159,606 volumes had doubled nearly three times in the four decades since 1900. Yale experienced the same growth rate with a 1940 collection of 2,219,642 volumes. In that same year Yale expended \$123,905.00 to acquire 68,892 volumes.²

American college and university library collections doubled in size, then doubled again and at 436,604,214 volumes would be well on the way for a third doubling in size in the thirty-five year period between 1940 and 1975. Expenditures for book stock doubled nearly five times in that same period reaching over 181 billion dollars in 1975.³

¹U.S., Federal Security Agency, Office of Education, Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1941-42, Vol. 2, chap. 2, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1944), pp. 39-40.

²U.S., Federal Security Agency, Office of Education, Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1939-40, Vol. 2, chap. 6, (Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1943), pp. 36-61.

³American Library Association, ALA Yearbook, 1976 (Chicago: American Library Association, 1976), pp. 57.

The reasons for the startling growth of academic library collections are varied and complex. This growth has certainly been hastened by the establishment of hundreds of new institutions of higher education and the millions of additional students attending colleges and universities across the land.¹

According to Robert B. Downs, three other factors have affected this remarkable growth including, substantial and continued increases to book budgets, nationwide cooperative programs for the acquisitions of materials, and the massive rise in the publication of printed materials.²

Early Cooperative Programs

Pioneer American college and university libraries have been described as "strongly addicted to rugged individualism," regarding their collections as independent entities.³ Their twentieth century counterparts were forced to become more interdependent. The sheer bulk of material being published in all parts of the world made it impossible for every library to attempt to build universal collections.

¹Ann Golenpaul, gen. ed., Information Please Almanac, Atlas and Yearbook, 1976, (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1976), p. 744. Enrollments in institutions of higher education rose from nearly 1.5 million in 1940 to 8.9 million in 1974-75 as surveyed by the U.S. Office of Education and reported in this source.

²Robert B. Downs, "The Growth of Research Collections," Library Trends 25 (July 1976):58.

³Idem, "Future Prospects of Library Acquisitions," Library Trends 18 (January 1970): 412.

One of the first major efforts in cooperative acquisitions by American research libraries was the Cooperative Acquisitions Project for Wartime Publications, growing out of the Second World War.¹ Acquisition of materials issued in the war-torn countries had come to a standstill and American libraries were feeling the pinch. The Association of Research Libraries, together with the Library of Congress, requested that the federal government assist research libraries in maintaining their collections in these areas. The State Department agreed to help with the stipulation that participating libraries "had agreed upon and carefully planned a program of cooperative buying and they would continue to support such a plan as long as federal assistance was granted them."² In its three year history between August 1945 and October 1947 the project distributed a total of over 800,000 volumes.³ Downs concluded the project demonstrated that:

American libraries can look to their national library for leadership in large co-operative activities; research libraries are able and willing to support a broad program for the improvement of library resources; the idea of libraries combining for the acquisition of research materials is feasible and desirable; and the research resources of American libraries, as represented by their holdings, are a matter of concern to the federal government.⁴

¹ Idem, "Wartime Co-operative Acquisitions," Library Quarterly 19 (July 1949): 157.

² Ibid., p. 158.

³ Ibid., p. 165.

⁴ Ibid., p. 157.

Thus began what was to become a series of new acquisitions programs. Major academic and research libraries cooperated among themselves and the Library of Congress to build major resources with the growing support of the federal government.

Next came the Association of Research Libraries Farmington Plan. This plan attempted to insure that at least one copy of every new foreign book of possible research value to American research was acquired by an American library, listed in the National Union Catalog and made available through interlibrary loan to other institutions. Beginning in 1948 with three western European nations (France, Sweden and Switzerland), its scope became worldwide within five years.¹

Another venture in cooperative acquisition of foreign material was the Latin American Cooperative Acquisitions Program (LACAP), starting in 1959. This program attempted to provide its participants with a steady flow of the printed materials newly published in all the countries of Latin America, an area notoriously bad for book procurement. In essence the libraries involved placed blanket orders for all Latin American materials with the firm of Stechert-Hafner.²

By 1973, both the Farmington Plan and the Latin American Cooperative Acquisitions Program had ceased. The reasons for discontinuation of the Farmington Plan were given by its sponsor, the Association for Research Libraries:

¹Edwin E. Williams, Farmington Plan Handbook, Rev. ed., (Ithaca, New York: Association of Research Libraries, 1961), p. 17.

²Martin J. Savary, The Latin American Cooperative Acquisitions Program (New York: Hafner Pub. Co., 1968), p. 54.

(1) the increasing use of blanket order programs by member libraries (which presumably duplicated the Farmington Program); (2) the Library of Congress' national program of acquisitions and cataloging; and (3) the reduction in many libraries' acquisitions budgets in recent years.¹

The decision to abandon LACAP was based on a decreasing volume of sales at Stechert-Hafner.²

A New Era of Cooperation

An expanded approach to cooperation was formed with the establishment of the Midwest Inter-Library Center (now the Center for Research Libraries) in 1949. The center initially served three functions. First, the Center would house infrequently used research materials weeded from member libraries in an economical manner. Duplicates deposited at the Center were weeded out for an even greater economy of storage. Second, the Center would purchase at the shared expense of its members, selected research materials with anticipated infrequent use. Member libraries would no longer have to duplicate purchases on this type of material. Third, the Center would provide quick inter-library loans to its member institutions.³

After reorganization in 1965, the Center for Research Libraries broadened its scope from regional to international. It concentrated

¹N. A., "Research Acquisitions Programs Fold," American Libraries 4 (February 1973): 78.

²Ibid.

³Gordon Williams, "Inter-Library Loans: The Experience of the Center for Research Libraries," UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries 28 (March-April 1974): 75.

its collecting activities on highly-specialized, little used materials thus relieving its member libraries from the burden of acquiring a variety of fringe materials, expensive to purchase, seldom needed (but important when wanted), and filling valuable space.

With the formation of programs like the Center for Research Libraries, cooperative library agreements were no longer restricted to building comprehensive library collections in designated areas of strength. Under the new systems, member libraries were offered a wide variety of materials they need not acquire, but that could still be provided to their patrons via interlibrary loan in a reasonable amount of time when and if they were needed. Member libraries could thus use the funds they might have expended on this marginal material for the purchase of items directly related to their institutional needs and in more constant demand by their patrons.

Federal Aid for Academic Libraries

The 1960's were a golden age for federal library legislation and for the development of library collections. The year 1965 marked the high point of this period. President Johnson, acting in response to the social concerns of the day and riding with the strength of his sweeping victory at the polls, urged Congress to enact legislation concerning the education of the nation's youth.

The Higher Education Act (HEA) of 1965 was the most valuable piece of legislation for academic libraries to come out of the "Education Congress." While the Academic Facilities Act of 1963 had provisions for library buildings, HEA 1965 awarded funds for the

purchase of library materials. In his special message on education delivered January 2, 1965, President Johnson remarked that: "to construct a library building is meaningless unless there are books to bring life to the library."¹

The College Library Resources Program under Title II-A of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, has awarded over \$155,750,000 to more than 1,850 academic libraries for the acquisition of books, periodicals, microforms, and other library materials since its inception.² By 1974 over 10 million volumes had been purchased under this program.³

The level of funding for Title II-A in the 1970's has declined from that of the previous decade. A new attitude toward higher education and libraries emerged on the part of the Nixon administration which has continued to the present. The data in Table 1 illustrates the decline of both the obligation and the appropriation of federal Title II-A funds from 1966 to 1976. The number of grants awarded is also depicted in Table 1. The reduction in funding has been paralleled by a similar reduction in the number of supplemental and special purpose grants awarded under Title II-A.

¹U.S., Congress, Senate, Congressional Record, 89th Cong., 2nd Sess., 1965. CXI, pt. 1, p. 510.

²Shelden Z. Fisher and Frank A. Stevens, "Higher Education Act, Title II-A, College Library Resources;" In: Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1977 (New York: R. R. Bowker, 1977), p. 186.

³Alan Carter Smith, "The Higher Education Act, Title II-A; Its Impact on the Academic Library," Library Trends 24 (July 1975): 76.

Table 1. Distribution of funds under Title II-A.

Fiscal Year	Appropriation	Obligation	Number of Grants Awarded:		
			Basic	Supplemental	Special Purpose
1966	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 8,400,000	1,830	0	0
1967	25,000,000	24,500,000	1,989	1,266	132
1968	25,000,000	24,900,000	2,111	1,524	60
1969	25,000,000	24,900,000	2,224	1,747	77
1970	12,500,000	9,816,000	2,201	1,783	0
1971	9,900,000	9,900,000	548	531	115
1972	11,000,000	10,993,000	504	494	21
1973	12,500,000	12,500,000	2,061	0	65
1974	9,975,000	9,960,200	2,377	0	0
1975	9,975,000	9,957,000	2,569	0	0
1976	9,975,000	9,953,000	2,560	0	0

SOURCE: Sheldon Z. Fisher and Frank A. Stevens, "Higher Education Act, Title II-A, College Library Resources," In: Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1977 (New York: R. R. Bowker, 1977), p. 188.

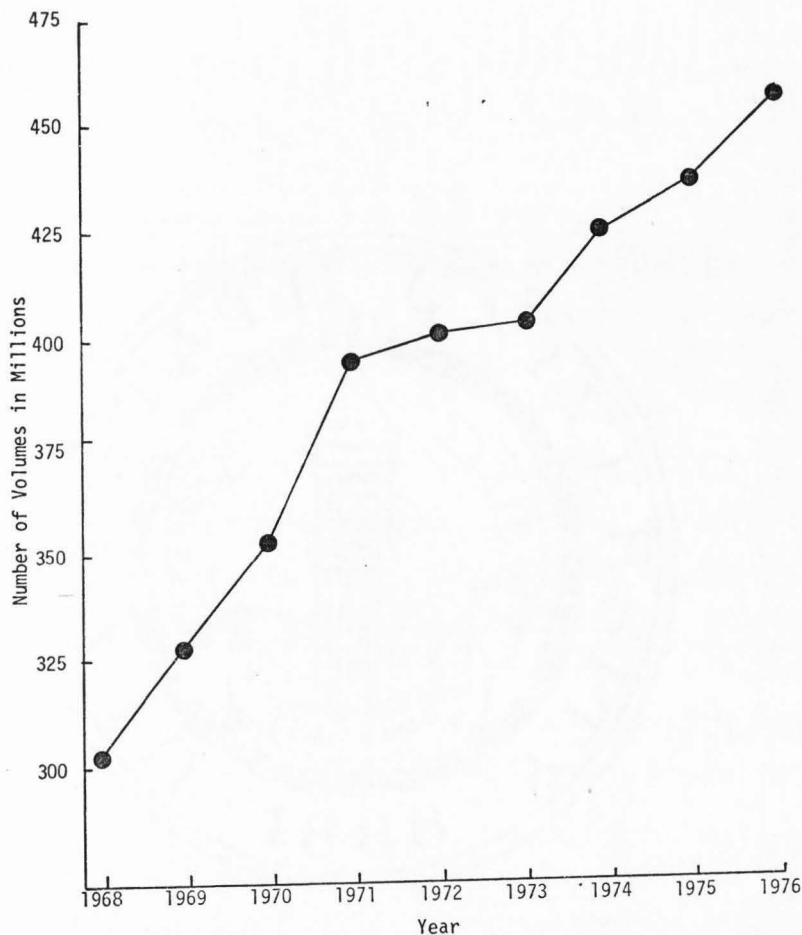
Recent Decline in Library Growth Rates

Over the past two centuries, American academic libraries have experienced exponential expansion of their collections. Book budgets steadily increased to keep up with the vast amount of new publications issued from all parts of the world. Libraries cooperated among themselves and with the federal government to build comprehensive research collections covering the total world output.

Recent comparative studies indicate, however, that this phenomenal rate of growth is declining. The National Center for Educational Statistics used surveys it had conducted in 1974-75 and 1972-73 along with studies from 1967-68 to 1970-71 to illustrate this lessened rate of growth. Between 1972-73 and 1974-75 total expenditures for academic libraries increased at an annual rate of 5 percent. This is down considerably from the 12 percent annual rate of increase experienced for the years 1967-68 through 1970-71. Expenditures for books and microfilms increased at an annual rate of only 1.4 percent from 1972-73 through 1974-75.¹

The reduced rate in the growth of library budgets has compounded with the steady and rapid increases in the price of library materials to produce an overall decrease in the growth rates of library collections. Figure 1 graphically represents the actual growth in the number of volumes held in American academic libraries, with 305,000,000 in the fall of 1968 to 450,000,000 in the fall of 1976.

¹American Library Association, ALA Yearbook, 1976 (Chicago: American Library Association, 1976), p. 57.



SOURCE: Theodore Samore, "College and University Library Statistics;" In: Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1977 (New York: R. R. Bowker, 1977), pp. 266-267.

Figure 1. Number of Volumes Held by American College and University Libraries, 1969-1976

Figure 2 graphically represents the erratic nature of the annual rate of growth in the size of library collections.

Wilfred Ashworth and others have argued that this recent decline is part of a natural process and that

... continued exponential growth would be a most abnormal state of events. In the real world things do not grow and grow until they reach infinity. Instead exponential growth eventually reaches a point at which the process must slacken and stop before reaching absurdity.¹

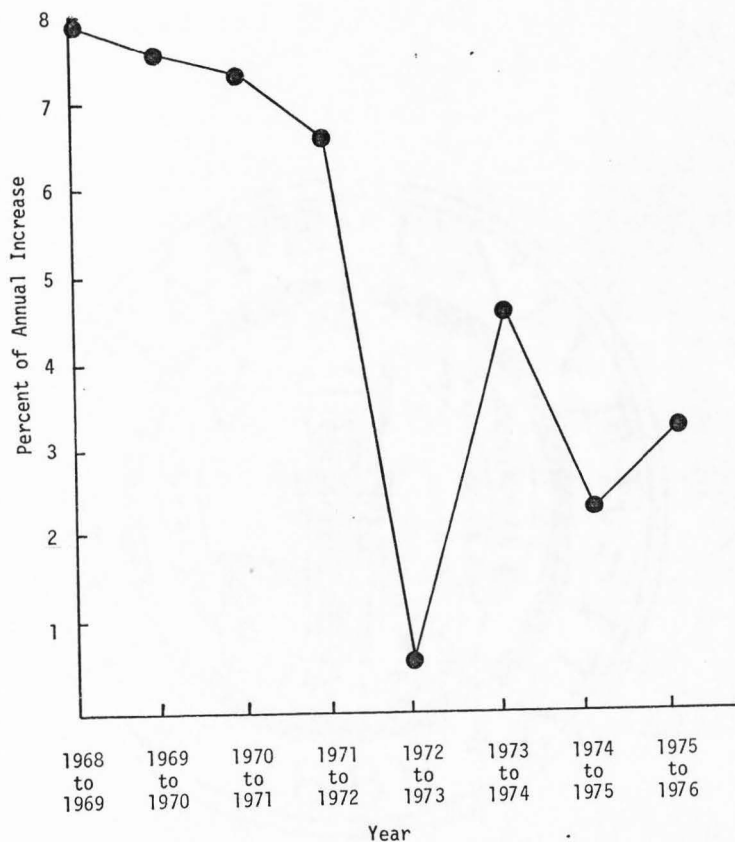
Ashworth describes the past forty years of collection growth in American academic libraries as a case of initial over-reaction and subsequent over-correction.

Faced with a sudden realization that libraries were losing ground against the tide of available material, panic set in and unprecedentedly high funds were voted from both local and federal resources. The Farmington Plan and other blanket ordering procedures for nonselective worldwide acquisition brought in a wealth of material and a corresponding load of dross, but since nobody was bold enough to reject any--after all who could predict what might be wanted in the future?--it was indexed, catalogued and housed in larger and larger buildings. Such a halcyon boom was too wasteful to last. The time taken to gain access to specific items of material deteriorated from minutes to hours. Over-correction has now set in and federal funds have dried up to the point of creating redundancy in the U.S. library profession and chaos in former show-place institutional libraries.²

The exponential expansion of American academic library collections has slackened. The decline in collection growth rates may indicate that libraries are reaching a point of saturation. Libraries have not, however, reached the point at which all

¹Wilfred Ashworth, "The Information Explosion," Library Association Record 76 (April 1974): 64.

²Ibid., p. 65.



NOTE: Percentage increases were calculated from information on total volumes held as listed in Figure 1.

Figure 2. Annual Percentage Increases in the Volume Growth of American College and University Library Collections, 1968-69 to 1975-76.

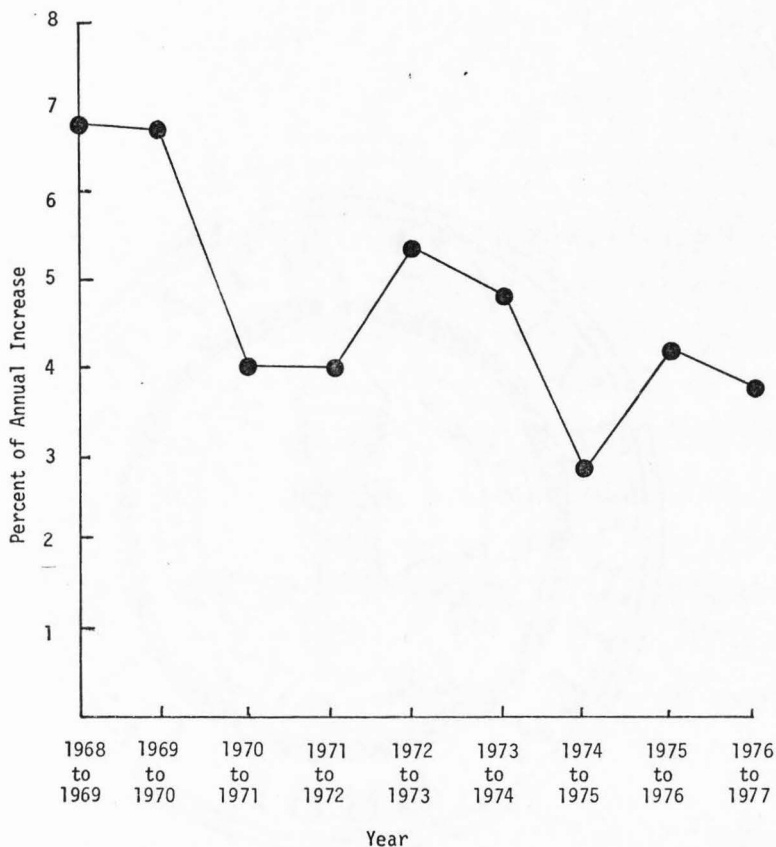
acquisitions must cease. Certain newly published materials will continue to be acquired. The amount of material that can be acquired will be determined by both the amount of financial support that is allocated to libraries and the cost of this material.

THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Comparison with National Trends

The Merrill Library at Utah State University is like many other American academic libraries in that it too is experiencing the combined effects of rising prices and budget retrenchment. This has resulted in a decline in the growth rate of the library's collection. A comparison of the annual rate of increase for the classified books added to the Merrill Library's collection (Figure 3), with the yearly collection growth of American academic libraries as a whole (Figure 2), reveals a similar decline in growth rates. While there are certain differences in the growth rates for specific years, both figures share the overall pattern of decline.

This slackening in the growth rate of the library's collection comes at a critical time in the development of the Merrill Library. Unlike Harvard, Yale and other large university libraries, the Merrill Library is a relatively young institution. While older, more established libraries can rely on nearly two centuries of collection development to help them weather the storm, the Merrill Library has been a university library for just twenty years. It has been during the last two decades that most of the library's resources and holdings have been acquired. The current decline in collection growth rates hinders the Merrill Library at a time when it is not yet mature.



NOTE: Percentage increases were calculated from cataloging statistics maintained by the Cataloging Department, USU Merrill Library.

Figure 3. Annual percentage increases in the classified volume growth of the USU Merrill Library, 1968-69 to 1976-77.

Origins of Utah State University

Utah State University belongs to the family of Land-Grant Institutions which had their origins in the Land Grant Act of 1862. This legislation was introduced into the United States House of Representatives by Justin S. Morrill.¹ The Morrill Act provided for the establishment of colleges, by the grant of public lands, to teach agriculture and mechanic arts. Thirty thousand acres were donated to each state for each state senator and each representative and \$1.25 per acre was fixed as the selling price.² Additional federal legislation increased the financial aid to land-grant institutions, thereby stimulating the development of college education and rural agricultural programs in America.³

Creation of Utah State University stems from the sanction of this federal legislation by the Utah Territorial Legislature in the passage of the Lund Act of 1888. The Lund Act provided a \$25,000.00

¹Joel Edward Ricks, *Utah State Agricultural College; A History of Fifty Years*, Salt Lake City: The Deseret News Press, 1938, p. 13.

²*Ibid.*, p. 15.

³Additional federal legislation included: The Congressional Act of July 23, 1866 which extended the time for the establishment of Land-Grant Colleges; the Hatch Act of 1887 which established Agricultural Experiment Stations; the second Morrill Act of 1890 containing provisions for annual appropriations to each college; the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 which aided the development of extension work; and the revised Smith-Lever Act of 1953 which consolidated the Copper-Ketcham, Bankhead-Jones, Clark-McNazy and other acts providing funds for cooperative extension work.

appropriation for the establishment of the Agricultural College of Utah and an Agricultural Experiment Station, both to be located in Cache County.¹ Logan and Cache County sold the present site of ninety-three acres and one hundred shares of water to the College trustees for one dollar.² By 1889 the contract was made on the south wing of, what is now, the Main Building. Construction of the structure was completed; Professor J. W. Sanborn was elected president of the college; the faculty were selected; and in 1890 the Agricultural College of Utah opened its doors to prospective students.

From these modest beginnings the college, which started with a faculty of nine and a student enrollment of 139, developed by 1977 into a university with a faculty of 751 and a student enrollment of 9,436.³ Utah State University now offers a rich curriculum in the arts and sciences, in both undergraduate and graduate programs. Eight resident colleges are included within the university, with a total of forty-seven academic departments. The university also maintains a School of Graduate Studies, University Extension Programs, and several major research programs.

The Merrill Library forms the common denominator between the academic disciplines represented in the university. Its importance cannot be overrated, since it could well be considered the very heart

¹Ricks, op cit. p. 20.

²Ibid. pp. 22-23.

³The title of the institution was changed to Utah State Agricultural College in 1929, and to Utah State University of Agricultural and Applied Science in 1957, by acts of the state legislature.

of the institution. One of the primary functions of the library is to develop and maintain a collection of resources which encompass the significant writings of the major disciplines, particularly those represented in the university's curricular and research activities, and a broad representation of the source materials related to these disciplines. The collection is designed to reflect the current status of these disciplines, provide adequate interpretation of their findings, foster understanding, and promote further research investigation by advanced students and faculty. The development of the library's collection, then, should parallel the growth of the entire institution.

The Growth of the College Library

The library was instituted as part of the college in 1890 and opened with an initial collection of 1,500 volumes. During the following four years the library was moved to four different locations. In 1900, Mrs. Sard Goodwin, the College Librarian, reported an urgent need for new accommodations.¹ The Library's collection of 8,000 bound volumes, 10,000 pamphlets (mostly U.S. government documents), and 240 serial subscriptions were crowded in a room measuring 18 feet by 24 feet. By 1902, the front of the Main Building was completed and the Library moved into the second story.

The new facilities were adequate for the Library's small collection. It was the small holdings, however, that were in need of enlargement. In 1908, the Librarian, Miss Elizabeth C. Smith, reported:

¹Maude Jeppson, *The Library of the Utah State Agricultural College, A History*, N.P., 1950, p. 5.

The growth of the Library during the last two years has been far from what we wish it might be. The College departments should be supported in a more substantial way. The technical and scientific branches taught demand special technical books, which are always very expensive.¹

Miss Smith also listed the completion of the library's periodical files and society publications as one of the most urgent needs.

By 1921 the gap between library holdings and college needs had widened. In a letter to the College President, Professor George Stewart lamented:

The great incompleteness of our general College library is a serious handicap Now that we are attempting to begin training graduate students the necessity of reasonable library equipment becomes woefully apparent.²

This situation continued to worsen and by the time the faculty, the President, and the College Board of Trustees were aware of the dearth of funds for books and the inadequacy of the Library's housing, the conditions had reached a critical stage. Since 1902 the total numbers of students had increased 115 percent. The number of graduate students had increased from none to thirty-seven. Yet in the twenty-five years between 1902 and 1927, the funds available for the library had increased only 29 percent.³

In a major effort to meet this challenge and improve the library, the Endowment Library Fund Committee was organized in 1927. Working with funds collected from a \$3.00 Library Fee paid by students at registration, the Endowment Library Fund Committee was able to raise

¹Ibid., p. 16.

²Ibid., p. 18.

³Ibid., p. 19.

over \$100,000.00 in two years. Then in March 1929, \$175,000.00 came from the state legislature for the building of a new library.¹ The new building was opened for use on December 4, 1930.

By 1940 the library held 80,000 bound volumes, an additional 90,000 pamphlets (mostly state and federal documents) and subscriptions to 642 serial publications. The data in Table 2 depicts the growth of the college library from 1900 to 1940.

Transition from College to University Library

The twenty years which followed this country's entrance into the Second World War mark the transition from Utah State Agricultural College to Utah State University. This was a period of diversification and growth of graduate and research activities within the institution. The college library endeavored to provide for these increasing campus needs, but was often hindered by lack of funds.

In keeping with the growing graduate and research work, the Library nearly tripled the number of its journal subscriptions in ten years; growing from 349 subscriptions in 1936 (Table 2) to 1,003 subscriptions in 1946 (Table 3). A large portion of these journals were purchased in support of research in the sciences.³ Expenditures for acquisitions, however, grew at a much reduced rate during the

¹Ibid., p. 20.

²Utah State Agricultural College Catalog, 1940-41, p. 31.

³Biennial Report, Utah State Agricultural College, July 1, 1942 - June 30, 1944, Logan, Utah, typescript, p. 381.

Table 2. Growth of the Agricultural College of Utah Library 1900-1940:
Biennial acquisitions expenditures and cumulative holdings.

Date	Biennial ^a Acquisitions Expenditures	Bookstock: ^b Bound Vols.	Pamphlets ^c Inc. Documents	Current ^d Serial Subscriptions
1900	\$ 1,162.49	8,000	10,000	240
1902	1,537.30	9,673	12,351	238
1904		11,231	14,900	
1906	1,719.07	15,580	14,581	
1908	2,513.36	17,200	16,723	
1910	2,864.13	18,889	19,005	
1912	3,910.16	22,053	23,672	
1914	4,861.65	27,048	33,482	240
1916	5,425.64	30,425	36,748	
1918	3,081.68	32,133	41,894	
1920	4,437.49	33,982	45,566	
1922	5,243.55	35,770	55,832	
1924	6,699.93	37,978	64,683	280
1926	5,666.09	40,000	66,018	
1928	6,219.00	43,075	66,988	
1930	5,945.12	45,651	67,783	280
1932	5,302.64	53,840	68,563	280
1934	5,187.29	57,117	69,448	
1936	10,643.52	61,257		349
1938	22,779.57	67,721	79,421	429
1940	18,648.25	80,000	90,000	642

SOURCE: Compiled from data in The Biennial Reports of the Board of Trustees of the Agricultural College of Utah for the years 1900-1926, and from the Biennial Reports of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Agricultural College for the years 1928-1940.

^aBiennial expenditures are for the two-year period ending with the date indicated; i.e., 1900 represents the biennium 1898-1899.

^bBookstock represents a variety of bound material including bound serials and documents.

^cPamphlets represent all printed material (excluding current periodical issues) that are not bound. The majority of this material is state and federal documents. If during the course of time a series of pamphlets was bound together into one or several volumes, the individual numbers would be subtracted from the pamphlet count and the resulting number of new bound volumes would be added to the bookstock count. Thus for the biennium ending in 1906, there is a net loss in the cumulative number of pamphlets and a relatively large gain in bookstock.

^dRepresents the total number of serials titles currently received; including paid subscriptions for periodicals, gifts, exchanges, and newspapers.

same period and other parts of the library's collection were left with diminished support.¹ In 1940, L. H. Kirkpatrick, college librarian, commented on this situation: "Our strength in science has seemed more important to the library committee and to the librarian than has our weakness in the classics and in philosophy."²

Journal and other serial subscriptions continued to receive a high priority and their numbers doubled in the ten years between 1946 and 1956 (Table 3). Expenditures for acquisitions also increased during this period just prior to the attainment of university status, but they fell short of what was considered necessary to support the growing demands of the institution. In 1950, the college librarian lamented that:

The acquisitions of books and serials was far below the standards for libraries for a college this size The five year goal has been to improve the library enough

¹Biennial acquisitions expenditures for 1934-36 were \$10,643.52 (Table 2), giving an average annual expenditure of \$5,321.76 in 1935-36. Expenditures for acquisitions in 1945-46 were \$7,469.97 (Table 3), representing only a 40 percent increase.

²Biennial Report, Utah State Agricultural College, July 1, 1938-June 30, 1940. Logan, Utah, typescript. p. 102.

Table 3. Growth of the Utah State University Library 1940-41 to 1961-62: Annual acquisitions expenditures, cumulative holdings and the ratio of total library expenditures to total education and general university expenditures.

Date	Annual ^a Acquisitions Expenditures	Total ^b Volume Holdings	Bookstock ^c	Pamphlets: ^d Documents	Serial ^e Subscriptions	Ratio of Library ^f Expenditures to Total Education and General University Expenditures
1940-41	\$ 5,602.91					
1941-42	7,028.08		82,189	102,206	741	
1942-43	7,547.52					
1943-44	4,061.32		91,258			
1944-45	14,469.97					
1945-46	7,469.97		111,026	56,767 ^g	1,003	
1946-47	20,929.46					
1947-48	14,352.99		132,952	82,878		
1948-49	26,994.28					
1949-50	30,145.76		151,259	114,260	1,525	
1950-51	19,562.61					.0349
1951-52	25,908.67					.0362
1952-53	30,071.68					.0363
1953-54	19,716.24	171,826 ^h	87,270 ⁱ			.0342
1954-55	27,057.08		92,000 ⁱ			.0305

Table 3. Continued.

Date	Annual ^a Acquisitions Expenditures	Total ^b Volume Holdings	Bookstock ^c	Pamphlets: ^d Documents	Serial ^e Subscriptions	Ratio of Library ^f Expenditures to Total Education and General University Expenditures
1955-56	22,265.92	194,031 ^j	96,324 ⁱ	68,612 ^j	2,067 ^j	.0245
1956-57	30,116.52	198,195 ^k			2,142 ^k	.0262
1957-58	38,303.70	228,094 ^l			2,188 ^l	.0242
1958-59	40,779.92	237,018 ^m			2,209 ^m	.0260 ^m
1959-60	39,941.29	244,623 ⁿ			2,369 ⁿ	
1960-61	59,291.32	278,984 ^o			2,576 ^o	
1961-62	69,002.00	302,984 ^o			2,640 ^o	

^aExpenditures for acquisitions of library materials (books, serials, microforms) were compiled from the annual financial reports of the Utah State Agricultural College/Utah State University and from library financial records for the years indicated.

^bThis category was initiated in the early 1950's in an effort to represent all bound volumes including classified monographs, bound serials, state publications, federal documents, and microform volume-equivalents. Use of this category continued up to 1971. Figures on specific items within this category, i.e., classified monographs (bookstock) and documents are given for the years they are available.

Table 3. Continued.

^cBookstock represented a variety of bound volume materials assessed up to the mid-1950's. Sources for data up to that time included the Biennial Reports of the Board of Trustees of the Utah State Agricultural College.

^dThis category includes a wide variety of unbound material, especially state, federal and international documents. By 1955-56, this category was used only for U.S. federal documents. Data prior to 1955-56 compiled from the Biennial Reports of the Board of Trustees of the Utah State Agricultural College.

^eSerial subscriptions includes the total number of serial titles currently received; i.e., paid periodical subscriptions, newspapers, gifts and exchanges. Data for the years up to and including 1949-50 compiled from the Biennial Reports of the Board of Trustees of the Utah Agricultural College.

^fThe ratio of total library expenditures to the total education and general college/university expenditures is expressed as a percentage. As the institutions expenditures increased during its transition from college to university, this ratio decreased. Data for all years except 1958-59 taken from a statistical summary of annual financial reports prepared by the university librarian and enclosed in a letter from Milton C. Abrams, Librarian to Dr. M. R. Merrill, Vice President, October 15, 1959.

^gThe documents division of the library was reorganized in this year and the figure primarily represents U.S. federal documents.

^hData taken from Biennial Report of the Utah State Agricultural College, 1952-54.

ⁱFrom 1953-54 on, this figure represents only the monographic volumes classified by the Dewey Decimal Classification system. The total is calculated by using the past years cumulative total as a base, adding the current years additions to the collection, and subtracting the volumes withdrawn from the collection during that year. Data compiled from Utah State University, "Guide for Self-Evaluation and Accreditation of Higher Schools," completed by Library Staff in October 1957. Typescript, n.p.

Table 3. Continued.

^jCollection holding statistics for the years 1955-56 through 1958-59 were gathered and reported by the Association of College and Research Libraries and reported annually in their journal. In 1960 the task was taken over by the Office of Education, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Reports issued irregularly from that date on. Data taken from "College and University Library Statistics, 1955-56," College and Research Libraries 18 (January, 1957): 52-53.

^k"College and University Library Statistics, 1956-57," College and Research Libraries 19 (January 1958):54-55.

^l"College and University Library Statistics, 1957-58," College and Research Libraries 20 (January 1959):32-33.

^m"College and University Library Statistics, 1958-59," College and Research Libraries 21 (January 1960):30-31.

ⁿUnited States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Office of Education, Library Statistics for Colleges and Universities, 1959-60, Part I, Institutional Data, Washington, D.C., GPO, 1962, p. 32.

^oUtah State University Library Statistical Report, 1963. Filed in the Chase papers.

to give the College accreditation in various fields of academic activity. This goal has not been achieved. The library is pitably weak for an institution offering graduate work in as many fields as this institution does.

In 1952 the warning was repeated: "During the biennium the library has grown at normal pace but is still inadequate to meet the needs of the research staff, the graduate school and the undergraduate school."²

The library was looking to increase its space as well as its budget. Increased user demands necessitated the enlargement of the library's physical plant.³ Without immediate hope of enlarging the main library building, branch libraries began to develop to handle the overflow. In 1948, five branch libraries were established bringing the total number of satellite libraries then in operation to seven. The branch libraries included: the Moore Children's Library established in 1927; the Forestry Library established in 1944; the Home Economics Library established in 1948; the Engineering Library established in 1948; the Commerce library established in 1948, the Claypool Map Library established in 1948, and the Carnegie Music Library also established in 1948. By 1953 there were nine branch libraries, included the newly organized Hatch Memorial Library and the Union Library of Music, popular books and periodicals.

¹Utah State Agricultural College, Biennial Report, July 1, 1948-June 30, 1950. Logan, Utah. Typescript. pp. 416-417.

²Utah State Agricultural College, Biennial Reports, July 1, 1950-June 30, 1952. Logan, Utah. Typescript. p. 409.

³Utah State Agricultural College, Report for the Biennium, July 1, 1944-June 30, 1946. Logan, Utah. Typescript. p. 397.

This diffusion of the library's collection into several pockets spread throughout the campus appears to parallel a similar diffusion of the institution's support for the library. During the critical period when the college expanded to university status, the library was unable to capitalize upon this situation to improve its collection. In spite of the inadequacies of its collection, the library was unable to secure a prominent position on the new university's list of priorities. This is revealed in the ratio of library expenditures to education and general expenditures of the institution as a whole. This ratio declined over the transition period. During the years 1950-51 to 1953-54, the annual average of this ratio was .0354, but for the period covering the attainment of university status, 1955-56 to 1958-59, the average annual ratio of library expenditures to the total education and general university expenditures fell to .0252 (Table 3).¹

The spread of the library's collection from the main library into the several branch libraries may have hindered efforts to focus campus attention on library needs. The library's space limitations may also have left invitation for the argument that there was not enough room to house a large addition of new volumes. Overcoming

¹During this same period the library reported this ratio, as well as its holdings to the Association of College and Research Libraries. These figures were listed with similar information from over 90 other libraries which had significant graduate programs or which represented state universities in the January issue of College and Research Libraries. The annual median of this ratio for the more than 90 libraries reporting averaged .0365 for the years 1955-56 to 1958-59.

these obstacles required the centralization of all library collections into a single, highly visible, new building with sufficient room for all needed volumes. With this goal in mind, the library soon rose as a university priority and the legislative appropriation for a new building was awarded in 1961.

Recent Collection Growth

The plans for the new library literally incorporated the old library building into the new structure. The new library was actually constructed around the old building. While more than a facade, the architectural possibilities for the new library were sorely limited at the onset. The plans also specified that this new structure serve several functions.* Nearly half the space available in this new physical plant was awarded to nonlibrary activities prior to ground-breaking (the library continues to accommodate two academic departments and other service enterprises).

Construction on the new building began in 1963. The task of consolidating the branch libraries was undertaken simultaneously. Most of this consolidation was accomplished by 1965, when the first two floors of the new building were ready for occupancy.¹ The remaining two floors were completed by 1967.

¹The central library now operates only one recognized branch library, the Moore Library of Children's Literature, located in the Edith Bowen School. There are two other libraries which continue to receive some modest support from the central library, but are administered by academic departments: The Intermountain Herbarium which has considerable material on loan from the central library, but is operated by the Biology Department; and the successor to the Claypool Map Library which receives modest acquisitions support from the central library but is operated by the Geology Department.

The new library was named after Milton R. Merrill, in honor of his more than fifty years of service to the University and his continued support of library programs. Four years after the building was completed, the Merrill Library and its collections were combined with other educational media programs and services into a single administrative organization: The Merrill Library and Learning Resources Program (MLLRP). The MLLRP is divided into four functional divisions: Instructional Development; Media Production; Library Services; and Collection Development. The divisions of library services and collection department are successors to the pre-MLLRP library functions.

The growth of the Merrill Library from 1962-63 to 1976-77, in terms of expenditures for acquisitions and holdings, is represented in the data in Table 4. Over fifty percent of the library's current holdings have been acquired since construction began on the new library. During the fourteen year period between 1962-63 and 1976-77, the number of classified volumes added to the library's general collection of books increased by 68 percent; the number of bound serial volumes has doubled; and the library's current serial subscriptions have increased in similar proportion. The most remarkable expansion, however, has occurred in the Library's United States Federal Documents holdings and in the microforms collection.

The library attained regional depository status for its documents collection in 1963. Thousands of items published by agencies of the United States federal government have been deposited with the Merrill Library each year. Changes in the definition of different types of federal documents and changes in the method of

Table 4. Growth of the Merrill Library, 1962-63 to 1976-77: Acquisitions expenditures and cumulative holdings.^a

Date	Annual ^b Acquisitions Expenditures	Total ^c Volume Holdings	Classified ^d Book Volumes	Documents ^e		Microforms ^f		Bound ^g Serials	Current ^h Serial Subscriptions
				Volumes	Items	Cards Fiche	Film		
1962-63	\$ 83,250.00	375,380	170,493	151,188		47,459		50,275	2,642
1963-64	151,558.00	404,723	178,637	170,428		47,560		52,000	3,402
1964-65	126,406.00	446,861	190,776	197,675		51,236	4,615	54,620	4,393
1965-66	155,269.00	489,754	205,269	223,441		67,382	4,822	57,034	4,588
1966-67	170,743.00	541,316	223,340 ⁱ	256,747		68,463 ⁱ	5,284	60,674	5,413
1967-68	145,487.00	557,516	192,366 ⁱ	300,672 ^j		125,523 ⁱ	6,255	63,374	5,486
1968-69	189,145.00	355,713	202,088	85,168 ^j	120,983 ^j	256,669	6,331	67,347	5,500
1969-70	174,357.00	383,052	215,518	91,633	52,245 ^k	279,541	7,380	71,336	5,600
1970-71	199,000.00	408,553	224,039	95,382	51,160	282,803	8,250	75,677	5,824
1971-72	254,141.00		233,070	98,572	58,314	297,201	8,864	80,368	5,824
1972-73	263,276.00		245,538	102,630	70,475	318,706	9,726	88,823	5,728 ^l
1973-74	318,400.00		257,287	107,068	74,375	340,678	10,741	95,541	5,674 ^m
1974-75	321,000.00		264,728	112,649	84,878	369,214	11,623	99,895	5,693

Table 4. Continued.

Date	Annual ^b Acquisitions Expenditures	Total ^c Volume Holdings	Classified ^d Book Volumes	Documents ^e		Microforms ^f		Bound ^g Serials	Current ^h Serial Subscriptions
				Volumes	Items	Cards Fiche	Film		
1975-76	\$511,792.08		275,974	119,884	98,502	393,950	12,636	109,007	5,880
1976-77	292,963.33		286,643	128,289	108,778	425,305	13,314	114,803	5,900

^aData on library holdings were compiled from the annual cataloging statistics sheets, prepared by the Cataloging Department.

^bAnnual acquisitions expenditures were taken from library financial reports for the years indicated and include expenditures from university allocations, federal grants and gifts.

^cThis category was used until 1972 to depict the total volume holdings of the library. Included in this category were classified books, government documents, bound serials and certain unclassified books at the Moore Library (which are not listed in this table). Microforms were not included in the total volume holding count.

^dClassified book volumes represents the number of monograph volumes that were catalogued and classified under the Dewey Decimal System. Withdrawals were subtracted from each years additions to this figure.

^eThe library became a regional depository for U.S. federal documents in 1963. The counting of federal documents has always been difficult and several methods have been employed. Until 1969, documents were counted as "pieces." With each individual "piece" having the same value, no matter its size. After that date the larger, hard-bound material was counted as "volumes" and the other, less substantial material as "items." This method is confusing as often several dozen "items" would eventually be bound into one volume. The statistics would have to be altered to reflect this change by subtracting from the item count and adding to the volume count.

Table 4. Continued

^fAll microforms are counted in a single category until 1964. After this date, microfilm reels were separated into a distinct category and counted as individual reels, regardless of the number of titles (or complete books) that might be on a reel. Microcards and microfiche are counted as individual pieces.

^gThis represents the actual count of the number of hard-bound volumes of serial publications which are not catalogued.

^hThis represents all material currently recorded and checked-in at the library's Kardex, including paid subscriptions for serials and newspapers, serials received as gifts and serials received on an exchange basis.

ⁱIn 1967-68 over 46,000 microcards that had been classified under the Dewey System and counted as classified book volumes were withdrawn from this category and added to the microcard category. Thus there was a net loss in the classified book totals between 1966-67 and 1968-69.

^jAn inventory of the U.S. federal documents was conducted during this period and a new method of record keeping was adopted (see note e).

^kAdditional refinements in the "item" count procedures were implemented at this time which have persisted to the present.

^lThis decrease in subscriptions was due, in part, to cancellations of foreign titles effected during the devaluation of the dollar in the early part of the decade.

^mThis decrease in subscriptions was due, in part, to cancellations affecting in the 1979 Review of Serials (see Chapter entitled "Facing the Erosion of Library Purchasing Power").

recording their acquisition make it difficult to trace the actual development of this collection.¹ Documents represent, however, a sizeable portion of the library's total holdings.² The acquisition of these documents, moreover, does not require expenditure of acquisitions funds; they are provided free to the library under federal law by the Government Printing Office.

The microforms collection has demonstrated the greatest growth of all library collections. During the past fourteen years, the collection has grown from under 50,000 units to over 425,000 units. These units represent individual pieces of microformat material; i.e., individual microcards, microfiche, or single reels of microfilm.

The microform collection encompasses a variety of information reproduced from numerous original media formats. Microforms offer several advantages to print media, including savings in initial expenditure and also in the space required to house them. The great growth of the library's microform holdings has been advanced by these savings. There is also a growing amount of material which is available only in microformat.

The increases experienced in the library's holdings over the last decade and a half are, unfortunately, deceiving. While these increases were dramatic during the last sixties and early seventies, they have

¹See Appendix B and note (e) of Table 4 for brief descriptions of the methods employed in counting U.S. federal documents.

²For example, using ACRL volume-equivalents to describe the total library holdings in 1976-77 (Appendix B), the largest contributors to this total in descending order are: classified monographs--34.8%; Documents--28.7%; Bound Serials--13.9%; Microforms--12.1%; Special Collections--5.5%; and all other areas--4.45%.

declined significantly in recent years in several important categories. The serial subscription list and the acquisition of classified books have both fallen victim of this recent decline. This situation is critical, for a library's collection of classified books and serial subscriptions are the touchstone upon which it is judged.

The past twenty years have been devoted to laying the foundation of a collection adequate to support the diversity and calibre of a growing university. While the University continues to expand its frontiers to include new fields of curriculum and research, declining growth rates indicate that the library will be hard pressed to keep pace. The specter of spiralling inflation casts a dark shadow over any prospects for improvement.

THE PRICE OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Published Sources of Price Data

The major published sources of information regarding the prices of books and periodicals are Publishers Weekly, Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, and Library Journal. Each publication summarizes price information by subject field, computes an overall average for the field, and compares average price increases to a base year. Direct library application of these comparisons is difficult and has been criticized because the actual collection used in the surveys to develop the price index base may differ widely from the library wanting to use it.¹ They may be limited in that they exclude certain types of material, such as foreign publications, and/or they may be too broad in that they include materials not within the scope of individual institutions wishing to employ them. The indexes are useful in that they may exhibit general indications of trends, especially within subject areas. They are also useful in comparisons with other national indicators, such as the Consumer Price Index.

Publishers Weekly surveys the domestic hard-cover books listed in its "Weekly Record" section and computes their average prices annually. Paperback books, government documents, and certain

¹Frank F. Clasquin, "Periodical Prices: A Three-Year Comparative Study," Library Journal 99 (October 1974): 2447.

multi-volume encyclopedias are not included. In 1970 the average price of the books surveyed was \$11.66.¹ During the next six years the average price increased nearly fifty percent and reached \$17.39 in 1976.² The price of periodicals, as reported in the published sources, has risen more rapidly.

Between 1970 and 1976, the average subscription price of American periodicals as surveyed by Library Journal increased by 116 percent, while the national consumer price index for the same period rose only 46.6 percent. Table 5 depicts the yearly increases for both of these categories during the first six years of this decade. Table 6 arranges this information by selected subject category.

Table 5. Average prices of American periodicals compared to the Consumer Price Index, 1970-76.

Year	Average Price of Periodicals	Percent Annual Increase	Consumer Price Index	Percent Annual Increase
1970	10.41	120.2	116.3	
1971	11.66	134.6	121.3	4.3
1972	13.23	152.8	125.3	3.3
1973	16.30	187.1	133.1	6.2
1974	17.71	204.5	147.7	11.0
1975	19.44	230.3	161.2	9.1
1976	22.52	260.0	170.5	5.8

SOURCE: Norman B. Brown, "Price Indexes for 1976 U.S. Periodicals and Serial Service," Library Journal 101 (August, 1976): 1600.

¹ Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1971 (New York: R.R. Bowker, 1971), p. 90.

² N.A. "Highlights of Book Trade Statistics 1976-77," Publishers Weekly 215 (20 February 1978): 69.

Table 6. Average prices and price indexes for U.S. periodicals by selected subject area, 1970-76.

	1976		1975		1974		1973		1972		1971		1970	
	Price	Index	Price	Index	Price	Index	Price	Index	Price	Index	Price	Index	Price	Index
AGRICULTURE	10.75	229.7	9.70	207.3	8.12	173.5	7.21	154.1	6.35	135.7	5.74	122.6	5.17	110.5
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS	16.98	225.2	15.26	202.4	13.90	184.4	12.25	162.5	9.95	132.0	9.72	128.9	9.03	119.8
CHEMISTRY & PHYSICS	86.72	354.2	76.84	313.9	65.47	267.4	56.61	231.5	45.46	185.7	38.31	156.5	33.45	136.6
EDUCATION	16.00	252.4	14.72	232.2	12.64	199.4	11.34	178.9	9.51	150.0	8.25	130.1	7.09	111.8
ENGINEERING	31.87	317.7	26.64	265.6	24.38	243.1	23.37	233.0	16.04	160.0	13.28	132.4	12.07	120.3
GENERAL INTEREST	15.24	209.3	14.36	197.3	11.43	157.0	10.05	138.5	9.92	132.1	9.32	128.0	8.47	116.3
HISTORY	11.94	197.7	11.14	184.4	9.57	158.4	8.95	148.2	8.25	136.6	7.40	122.5	6.90	114.2
LITERATURE & LANGUAGES	11.60	215.6	10.41	193.5	9.16	170.3	8.14	151.3	7.45	138.5	6.88	127.9	6.15	114.3
MATHEMATICS, BOTANY, GEOLOGY & GENERAL SCIENCE	42.51	277.8	35.95	235.0	30.27	197.8	26.99	176.4	22.63	148.0	20.06	131.1	18.11	118.4
MEDICINE	47.47	244.9	42.38	218.7	36.31	187.3	33.60	173.4	29.59	152.7	27.00	139.3	23.44	120.9
SOCIOLOGY & ANTHROPOLOGY	17.11	280.0	14.85	243.0	13.03	213.3	11.28	184.6	9.12	149.3	7.92	129.6	7.31	119.6
ZOOLOGY	31.34	234.1	27.37	204.4	24.78	185.1	24.07	179.8	22.39	167.2	19.29	144.1	16.86	125.9
ALL CATEGORIES TOTAL U.S. AVERAGE	22.52	260.0	19.94	230.3	17.71	204.5	16.20	187.1	13.23	152.8	11.66	134.6	10.41	120.2

SOURCE: Norman B. Brown, "Price Index for 1976 U.S. Periodicals and Serial Services," Library Journal 101 (August 1976): 1600-03.

The 1976 Library Journal survey reported the average price of 3,151 American periodicals.¹ Their results are limited in their exclusion of foreign periodicals, which constitute a major expense for academic libraries. Clasquin and Cohen conducted a survey on the prices of physics and chemistry journals selected from indexing and abstracting sources which demonstrates this.² Their study found that the average 1976 price of chemistry journals, including foreign as well as domestic titles, was \$148.81. Physics journals had an average price of \$165.71 in 1976.³ The combined average price of the journals surveyed in these two categories was nearly twice the figure reported by Library Journal (Table 6).

The two studies were in more of an agreement on the rate of increase in price from the base year of 1967. Library Journal reported a 1976 chemistry and physics journal price index of 354.2, while Clasquin and Cohen reported 1976 indexes of 296.22 for chemistry and 341.32 for physics.⁴

Merrill Library Prices

The serial holdings of the Merrill Library are by no means substantial for an institution awarding doctoral degrees in over 30

¹Norman B. Brown, "Price Indexes for 1976 U.S. Periodicals and Serial Services," Library Journal 101 (August 1976): 1601.

²Frank F. Clasquin and Jackson B. Cohen, "Prices of Physics and Chemistry Journals," Science 197 (29 July 1977): 432.

³Ibid., p. 434

⁴Ibid.

fields. The Library's current serial subscriptions were recently surveyed in a 1976 review conducted by the Materials Selection Department in conjunction with the Learning Resources Committee of the University's Faculty Senate.

Price information was obtained on the Library's 3,500 titles for the years 1974 through 1976.¹ The titles were arranged into subject fields and a distinction was made between types of serial, including periodicals, serial services, and newspapers. The criteria used to distinguish periodicals from serial services was established by the American National Standards Institute and defined a periodical as:

A publication which constitutes one issue in a continuous series under the same title, published more than twice a year over an indefinite period, individual issues in the series being numbered consecutively or each issue being dated. Newspapers are excluded.²

Serial services are defined as:

A periodical publication which revises, cumulates, abstracts or indexes information in a specific field or on a regular basis by means of new or replacement issues, pages, or cards, intended to provide information otherwise not readily available.³

Two sets of tabulations were prepared for the average price of subscriptions received by the Merrill Library. One set recognized the distinction between types of periodicals while the other groups together everything paid for on a continuous basis. The former is compatible with the national surveys, such as those conducted by

¹Compiled in the Subject Bibliography of Current Serials.

²American National Standards Institute, American National Standard Criteria for Price Indexes for Library Materials (New York: The Institute, 1974), p. 9.

³Ibid., p. 10

Library Journal, in that they both recognize a distinction in types of serials. The latter set of average prices for the Merrill Library's serial subscription cannot be directly related to the published surveys. It does, however, reflect a more comprehensive picture of the Library's total serial expenditures.

Table 7 represents the average 1976 prices between the Merrill Library's periodicals, serial services and newspapers. Microform programs are not included in these figures.

Table 7. Average prices of USU periodicals, serial services and newspapers, 1976.

Category	Number of Titles	1976 Total Price	Average Price
Periodicals	2,582	\$120,032.59	\$ 46.48
Serial Services	799	65,559.80	82.05
Newspapers	101	5,937.61	58.78
Total	3,482	191,530.00	55.00

NOTE: Compiled from Subject Bibliography of Current Serials.

Journals surveyed for this study included many titles that were excluded from the annual surveys published in Library Journal. Foreign titles, publications issued irregularly, or annually, and monographic series are included in the Merrill Library's survey but not in the national averages. The inclusion of foreign titles tended to put the average price of the Merrill Library's periodicals higher

than the national average. The large percentage of expensive scientific journals also tended to increase this average. Irregulars and monographic series, on the other hand, tended to bring down the average price of the Library's serial services.

Table 8 depicts the average prices of Merrill Library periodicals and serial services by selected subject area.

In the tabulations for Table 9, no attempt was made to distinguish between periodicals or serials. Titles were grouped by subject and their prices totaled and averaged for the period 1974 through 1976. Subject categories were the same as those used in the Subject Guide of USU Current Subscriptions, prepared by the Materials Selection Department in 1976.

The figures in Table 9 do not reflect all subscription purchases for the years indicated. Not included were certain microform subscriptions, second copies, and general interest newspapers. These omissions account for less than eight percent of the total serial renewal expenditures for 1976.

The general science category included many titles which issued irregularly. Several volumes would appear in one year and none in the next. The 1975 figures for history and geography serials reflect a large last-time payment for the American Cultural Series, which is now complete. Without this item the total cost would have been \$3,167.48, giving an average price of \$28.03 per title and a much more regular increase.

Table 8. Average prices of Merrill Library periodicals and serial services by selected subject category, 1976.

Category	Average Price of Periodicals	Average Price of Serial Services
Agriculture	\$ 30.58	\$ 57.89
Biological Sciences	81.17	53.89
Business	27.62	88.67
Chemistry	177.36	186.13
Education	14.95	34.77
Engineering	40.40	46.54
General Interest	16.08	125.44
History and Geography	18.13	41.33
Humanities	15.92	27.17
Mathematics, Botany, Geology and General Science	60.19	203.57
Natural Resources	35.70	93.97
Physical Sciences	52.13	71.01
Zoology	38.00	79.05

NOTE: Compiled from Subject Bibliography of Current Serials.

Table 9. Average prices and annual price increases for combined Merrill Library periodicals and serial services by subject, 1974-1975.

SUBJECT	1976				1975				1974		
	NUMBER OF TITLES	TOTAL COST	AVE. PRICE PER TITLE	ANN. % INCR.	NUMBER OF TITLES	TOTAL COST	AVE. PRICE PER TITLE	ANN. % INCR.	NUMBER OF TITLES	TOTAL COST	AVE. COST PER TITLE
Agriculture	197	\$6,898.96	\$35.02	21%	191	\$5,528.12	\$28.94	15%	188	\$4,709.72	\$25.05
Biological Sciences	558	42,131.77	75.50	10%	526	35,960.77	68.36	14%	527	31,520.79	59.81
Business	222	10,124.52	45.60	8%	213	8,936.53	41.95	12%	214	7,996.32	37.36
Communication	16	296.40	18.52	10%	16	268.50	16.78	12%	16	239.50	14.96
Education	243	4,758.29	19.58	12%	234	4,057.38	17.33	8%	229	3,646.12	15.92
Engineering	193	8,221.80	42.60	25%	181	6,156.02	34.01	12%	181	5,484.45	30.30
Fine Arts	86	1,958.07	22.76	-3%	85	2,000.57	23.53	13%	81	1,606.28	19.83
Natural Resources	146	6,702.05	45.90	30%	135	4,758.74	34.24	17%	131	3,920.38	29.92
General Interest	117	7,402.76	63.27	18%	105	5,613.63	53.46	8%	103	5,079.29	49.31
General Science	81	13,936.55	172.05	11%	80	12,599.99	157.49	-6%	76	12,817.93	168.65
Home Econ. & Fam. Living	58	1,354.99	23.36	20%	53	1,028.30	19.40	17%	52	859.45	16.52
Humanities	227	4,076.38	17.95	23%	216	3,151.35	14.58	0%	215	3,163.74	14.71
Lib. Sci. & Instr. Media	122	5,618.88	46.05	2%	106	4,767.19	44.97	41%	107	3,393.24	31.71
History and Geography	118	2,812.76	23.83	-37%	114	4,348.88	38.14	62%	110	2,580.92	23.46
Physical Science	70	3,877.06	55.38	16%	65	3,077.23	47.34	30%	60	2,170.31	36.17
Pure Sciences	306	44,412.00	145.13	17%	297	36,808.44	123.93	17%	295	31,013.21	105.12
Social Sciences	512	14,575.12	28.46	9%	460	11,943.33	25.96	1%	451	11,499.46	25.49
Technology	93	4,769.65	51.28	23%	86	3,573.04	41.54	6%	83	3,225.44	38.86
Food and Nutrition	43	2,557.98	59.48	29%	41	1,886.57	46.01	14%	39	1,558.95	40.22
TOTAL	3408	\$186,485.99	\$54.72	12%	3204	\$156,464.63	\$48.83	12%	3158	\$136,495.50	\$43.22

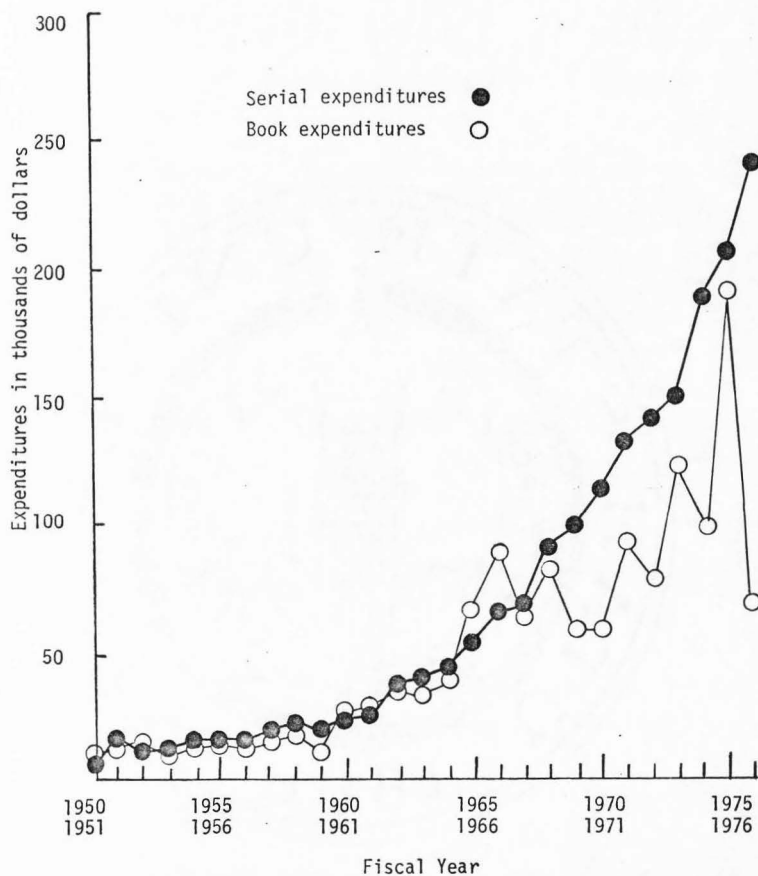
NOTE: Compiled from the Subject Bibliography of Current Serials.

Effects of Rising Prices

The average price of the Merrill Library's serial subscriptions increased 24 percent from 1974 through 1976; going up 12 percent in 1975 and another 12 percent in 1976. Acquisition budgets have not kept up with this double-digit inflation and this has resulted in the erosion of the Library's purchasing power. Over the past decade escalating serial prices have produced several critical years, but by transferring funds that would have been used to purchase books, adjustments have been made to keep the subscription of journals more or less stable.

This has, of course, affected the book budget. In 1950, the Merrill Library balanced its book and serial expenditures--spending equal amounts for both. This practice continued for the next seventeen years. In 1967, serial expenditures started to consume ever larger portions of the budget. This meant that less funds have been available for book purchases. Applying the "50-50" rule that was in practice from 1950 to 1966 to the expenditures made in the years following 1966, it is apparent that over \$350,000 that would have been spent for books was siphoned off to pay for serials. Figure 4 graphically illustrates the disparity between book and serial expenditures at the Merrill Library from fiscal year 1950-51 through fiscal year 1976-77.

What is most alarming about the increases in serial expenditures is that there has not been a significant increase in the number of subscriptions taken by the Merrill Library. Serial expenditures increased from \$69,000 in 1967 to \$265,000 in 1977. During this same



SOURCE: Financial reports of the Merrill Library for the year included.

Figure 4. Merrill Library expenditures for books and serials 1950-1976.

ten year period the number of paid subscriptions increased from 3,200 to just over 3,500.

It is conceivable that the escalating prices of serial publications may reach a point at which no funds would be left for the purchase of books and other non-serial materials. Several solutions have been offered to alleviate this problem. Clasquin and Cohen advocate financial aid from the federal government to help science libraries with their serial subscription costs.¹ White, arguing that it is unlikely that libraries will receive increased funding or that there will be a dramatic breakthrough in publishing technology, concludes that serial publications will need to be subsidized at the federal level.²

This type of support is desperately needed, but it may backfire. De Gennaro argues that financial help is certain to come to little and too late and when it does come, it will only encourage publishers to raise their prices even higher.³ The solution of federal aid may only aggravate the problem of escalating prices.

Long range forecasts on the future of libraries predict that this problem may be solved by new technology. Atkinson contends that scholarly articles in the future will no longer be printed and

¹Clasquin and Cohen, "Prices of Physics and Chemistry Journals," p. 436.

²Herbert S. White, "Publishers, Libraries and the Cost of Journal Subscriptions in Times of Funding Retrenchment," Library Quarterly 46 (October 1976): 376-377.

³Richard De Gennaro, "Escalating Journal Prices: Time to Fight Back," American Libraries 8 (February 1977): 72.

distributed in journals.¹ The information may, instead, be transmitted directly into a computer data base similar to that described by Licklider.² The library patron would access the articles from the data base and the need for the journals themselves would be eliminated. Licklider admits, however, that such a "precognitive" system may not be in operation for some time.³ It is also in doubt as to whether serial publishers hold this same vision for the future of their publications. The fact remains that libraries must continue to operate under the present conditions for the near future: They will continue to face rising prices for library materials and the resulting erosion of their purchasing power.

¹Hugh C. Atkinson, "The Future of the Scholarly Journal;" In: Management Problems in Serials Work, ed. by Peter Spyers-Duran and Daniel Gore (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1974), p. 118.

²J. C. R. Licklider, Libraries of the Future, (Cambridge, Mass., Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press, 1965), p. 219.

³*Ibid.*, p. 92.

FACING THE EROSION OF LIBRARY PURCHASING POWER

De-acquisitions

As an attempt to cope with the combined dilemmas of the information explosion and the erosion of library purchasing power, Daniel Gore offered the theory of the No-Growth, High-performance library.¹ Subscribers to this theory argue that a majority of a library's book and serial holdings are rarely used and could be weeded if available through interlibrary loan from other libraries or cooperatives, like the Center for Research libraries. A considerable amount of evidence has been compiled which indicates the low use of large portions of academic library collections.

Richard W. Trueswell has conducted several studies on library circulation patterns. In a 1964 study of the circulation patterns at the Deering Library and the Technological Institute Library of Northwestern University, Trueswell found that 99 percent of the current circulation sample at the Institute of Technology Library

¹Daniel Gore, "Farewell to Alexandria; the Theory of the No-Growth, High-Performance Library;" In: Farewall to Alexandria: Solutions to Space, Growth and Performance Problems in Libraries, ed. by Daniel Gore (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1976), pp. 104-120.

was made of books that had circulated in the previous eight years.¹ Trueswell concluded that a core collection of between 25 percent and 40 percent of the two libraries present holdings might satisfy over 99 percent of the user circulation requirements.² In 1969, Trueswell refined this ratio to the 80/20 rule: 80 percent of the items circulating from a library account for only 20 percent of the collection.³

Fussier and Simon, in a study of book use in large academic libraries, found that as much as 25 percent of the collections in some fields were used less than once in 100 years.⁴

Other studies on the use of serials show similar results. Kurth's study of the serials requested for loan from the National Library of Medicine recorded that 88 percent of the serial titles in the collection were not used even once in the 12 month survey.⁵

¹Richard W. Trueswell, "A Quantitative Measure of User Circulation Requirements and Its Possible Effect on Stack Thinning and Multiple Copy Determination," American Documentation 16 (January 1965): 22.

²Idem, "Two Characteristics of Circulation and Their Effect on the Implementation of Mechanized Circulation Control Systems," College and Research Libraries 25 (July 1969): 291.

³Idem, "Some Behavioral Patterns of Library Users; The 80/20 Rule," Wilson Library Bulletin 43 (January 1969): 458.

⁴Herman H. Fussier and Julian L. Simon, Patterns in the Use of Books in Large Research Libraries (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969), p. 119.

⁵U.S., Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Survey of the Interlibrary Loan Operation of the National Library of Medicine, by William H. Kurth, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1962), p. 26.

Williams reported a study of the National Lending Library for Science and Technology (NLL) in the United Kingdom, which has a collection of all currently published journals in these fields and freely lends journal issues, or provides photocopies to any library in the United Kingdom.¹ During a 12 month period in which nearly 1 million requests were received, the NLL received no requests for about 50 percent of the journal titles in its collection.

A growing concern over the apparent rare use of substantial portions of library collections was being expressed in the literature. In 1976, a new journal entitled the De-Acquisitions Librarian Newsletter devoted itself specifically to the identification and regulation of less-used books and periodicals, emphasizing research in de-acquisitions policies, and practical strategies of storage, weeding, and discarding.²

Opponents to the weeding of less used materials argued that while one can measure use, one cannot really predict with assurance that anything "de-acquired" will not be needed sometime in the future. This creed has deep roots. Fremont Rider, writing in 1944, argued that:

For popular consumption knowledge can be, to some extent, omitted or digested or condensed. But, for scholarly use, we can omit and condense and digest

¹Williams, "Inter-Library Loans," p. 76.

²First published by Harworth Press in 1976, the De-Acquisitions Librarian Newsletter has since changes its name to Collection Management and now claims its orientation towards increasing library performance and user satisfaction.

only within very narrow limits indeed: every scholar wants to do his own omitting and digesting.¹

Rider went on to point out that weeding materials on the premise that they were available from another library was not a solution at all "if all that it does is to shift a series of burdens from one set of shoulders to another set."²

A number of regional cooperative programs have suffered under this burden. In 1974, the Rocky Mountain Region's Bibliographic Center for Research in Denver was in financial difficulties and has since undergone reorganization. Member states were dropping out because they could utilize other, cheaper services formerly provided by the center.³ The periodical's bank of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest almost went under in 1974 for similar reasons.⁴

Concern over the new copyright regulations has shed some doubt over the future of programs that send photo-duplications of published materials to libraries that chose not to buy them. Proponents of de-acquisition and no-growth argue that adverse copyright restrictions may be avoided by sending the original material (especially journal volumes) itself instead of a photocopy. Gore points out that the British National Lending Library has been doing this for years.⁵

¹Fremont Rider, The Scholar and the Future of the Research Library (New York: Hadham Press, 1944), p. 45.

²Ibid., p. 48.

³Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1975 (New York: R. R. Bowker, 1975), p. 60.

⁴Ibid.

⁵Daniel Gore, "Sawing off the Horns of a Dilemma, or How to Cut Subscription Lists and Expand Access to Journal Literature," In: Management Problems in Serials Work, ed. by Peter Spyers-Duran and Daniel Gore (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1974), p. 112.

Several libraries have taken advantage of cooperative programs to weed out some of their less-used materials. The Macalester College Library was able to cut its subscription list from 1,700 down to 1,200 titles, largely as a result of the MINITEX project, a statewide inter-library loan service provided by the University of Minnesota Library.¹

De-Acquisitions at the Merrill Library

In 1974, the Merrill Library cancelled 208 of its serial subscriptions for a total reduction of over \$15,000.² Titles were picked for de-acquisition by means of a university-wide review of all current subscriptions. The review was initiated in an attempt to control the alarming rise in the price of serials and the resulting erosion of library purchasing power.

Lists of the library's current subscriptions were sent to every academic department on campus. Members of the faculty were asked to indicate only those serials they felt were essential to their teaching and research. Those journals not deemed essential came under prime consideration for cancellation.

The review was based on the assumption that a certain number of subscriptions could be cancelled with very little resulting curtailment in the University's academic and research capabilities. Many titles purchased during the boom of the 1960's were no longer

¹Ibid., p. 105.

²Information on the 1974 Review was obtained from a report prepared by the Materials Selection Department in January, 1974.

justifiable. Other serial services had become out-dated or duplicated by new subscriptions which offered a more thorough, rapid and relevant coverage of the subject fields. The cancellations resulting from the review seemed to justify these assumptions.

During the next two years, however, nearly \$15,000 was expended for new serial subscriptions.¹ While the library had been able to expand its coverage, it found itself in the same financial situation which had prompted the 1974 review. Rapid increases in serial prices coupled with the new subscriptions were again forcing the library to transfer book funds into the serials account and another comprehensive review of current subscriptions was initiated in 1976.

The review was not completed until late 1977. It involved more than merely weeding the library's journal collection. This report will describe the review in detail in order to demonstrate the comprehensive nature of the project.

The benefits expected from the review were varied. It was hoped that by sorting the Library's journal holdings into classes and subclasses of information, to be able to send to each department a list of only those journals in which the members of the department could be expected to be professionally interested. This would alert the members of the departments to the number and extent of the coverage of the Library's serial holdings.

The lists were to carry information about the cost of each serial publication in the hope of rendering some idea of the monies

¹ Figures for these expenditures were compiled from the Merrill Library's BATAB Materials Budget Summary Agency Fund Reports for the years indicated.

spent and the toll exacted by inflation. A fervent expectation was indulged that this information would in turn engender a tolerant concern for the ever-present constraints upon the Library's serial budget. All of this was in addition to the obvious result of critical faculty evaluation of the Library's serial holdings.

The first step was to produce and mail to the faculty a list consisting of the Library's best speculations as to their professional interests. From the response received, it was found that the library was correct in most cases.

With this information in hand preparations began for making the lists of classes and subclasses into which the serials collection would later be sorted for review. It was soon realized that this task required a fair amount of arbitrariness. The boundaries between fields of study are not always as firm as the situation demanded that they be made.

The next step was to consult the files of the serials acquisition department for those titles currently being paid for by the library. With the help of the Catalog of Serials to insure the correctness of the title, information was placed on 5" x 8" cards including the title of the publication, the library's holdings, the cost over the last three years, whether or not it was held by the University of Utah or Brigham Young University, and the extent to which the publication was indexed and/or abstracted.

The cards were then taken to the stacks themselves for information concerning the frequency of publication, auspices of publication, and a short non-critical description of the serial.

Having thus gathered information on the library's 3,500 paid subscriptions, it was decided that the same information on the serials received, but not paid for, would be useful. A list of gifts and exchanges that the library receives was obtained. It was important to compile such a list not only because it gives a more complete profile of the amount of information the library possesses, but also because it serves to remind that although the library does not pay any subscription costs on these publications, it does cost to have them processed, shelved and bound.

With the information gathered on the library's current serial publications in hand, the Materials Selection Department faced the task of placing each one of them into one of the classes and sub-classes developed early in the project. This was no mean feat, considering the number of journals whose stated intent is multi-disciplinary. Some criticism might be aimed at the choice of subject areas for some publications. But in defense it must be professed that these decisions were made with an authority obligated by necessity, insofar as it was essential for each serial title to have only a single location to eliminate duplication in a list already leviathan.

The lists were compiled and printed in the full master listing comprising the Subject Bibliography of Current Serials. Several copies were disassembled into their component parts. Each of these parts was examined to determine which discipline might be interested in the information carried in the journals included in that category. A package of the relevant serial holdings was prepared for each of the academic departments on campus for their evaluation.

During the first weeks of 1977, the departmental packages were delivered to the various faculty library representatives by the members of the Collection Development Staff. Included in each package was a copy of the USU Merrill Library Subject Bibliography of Current Serials, and two copies of relevant serial lists taken from the Bibliography. The representatives were asked to examine the subject coverage of their lists at this time and several requested expanded coverage and received additional lists.

The library representatives had the responsibility of coordinating the review within their departments. Over 700 faculty members had been notified by mail of the availability of the lists, and each was asked to evaluate the worth of the journals in his or her area of academic expertise.

The faculty were asked to rate the publications according to the following formula:

- 1) Absolutely essential to teaching and/or research of the department of faculty and students in general.
- 2) Important to teaching and/or research of the department or faculty and students in general.
- 3) Very useful to teaching and/or research of the department or faculty and students in general.
- 4) Marginal value to any research programs.
- 5) Nice to have but don't know or care of its value.

The results of this evaluation would be tabulated by members of the library staff and a list of serials which received the lowest priority rating would be used to construct a cancellation list.

The format of the review allowed not only for the weeding of redundant or marginal titles but also encouraged the faculty to

identify gaps in the library's serials holdings and to make recommendations for the acquisition of needed journals.

Initial faculty comments on the review as expressed by the departmental representatives to members of the library staff were focused on one basic issue: that there was a certain point at which weeding the collection would do more harm than good and that the situation could be greatly improved with bigger library budgets. There were major differences, however, in faculty views as to whether that point had been reached.

On the whole it was usually the view of those whose major interest was in research that the library could not afford to discontinue any more serials. Some of these faculty members expressed their departments disappointment over the last review of serials conducted in 1974. They felt that their departments had made many hard decisions which resulted in the cancellation of some very expensive titles, but other disciplines did not cooperate at this level. Thus it was implied that they would be extremely cautious in recommending cancellations during the current review. Included in this group were those that felt the library administration had not pressed hard enough for increased funding. Faculty members with these views usually represented disciplines supported by the library's most extensive and expensive serial holdings.

On the other hand, some representatives believed that a portion of the library's serials holdings were not being used and should therefore be discontinued. These faculty members empathized with the problems the library faced concerning the escalating prices of serials

and felt that certain of the book and journal requests made by some of their colleagues were wasteful.

Other faculty comments were directed at the actual mechanics of the review. While most approved of the categorizing of journals into subject lists, some felt that a single departmental list would have been more useful, both in terms of the review process and also as support material for curricular offerings and accreditation reports.

Another area of concern was the ranking system. It became immediately apparent to a few faculty members that the library would encounter difficulty in tabulating the average rank of titles using a system with the number one representing most needed and the number five representing least useful titles. Theoretically, the system could work well, but in practice many of the faculty left blank titles which they should have rated five. There was a hesitancy to assign a low priority.

What occurred is that two different scores represented the same evaluation: both five and no rank at all or zero could signify that a title was considered least important. This, of course, tended to make tabulations difficult. If one department evaluated a title as useful and ranked it three, another department could have evaluated it as unnecessary and could have given it either a rank of five or no rank at all. The average of these two departmental ratings could be either four or three.

The solution to this problem is quite simple in retrospect, merely reverse the numbering system with four signifying most essential and working down to zero signifying least needed or non-essential.

Another member of our faculty raised this question: How is one to judge "essentiality" and usefulness unless he has used the journal? Why, therefore, is it logical to even solicit negative (#four or five) comments? He went on to suggest that an alternative rating system be employed based on how often a journal is used by the individual evaluating it.

All of these comments were delivered in a spirit of friendly cooperation and as a whole the faculty seemed very willing to give of their time for the review effort.

With the lists in the hands of the library representatives, the process of review began in earnest. Most representatives simply routed the two copies of the list throughout their departments. A few departments went over the lists as a whole in Departmental meetings reaching one consensus rating for each title.

There was some difficulty experienced with the routing method, as many of the lists were delayed for weeks on various desks and a few were even lost.

The results of the review indicate that the faculty of Utah State University does not feel substantial or even moderate cuts could be made in the Merrill Library's serial subscription. Out of a total of nearly 3,500 paid subscriptions compiled for evaluation, only 163 titles received the lowest priority rating. The total price of the 163 titles was just over \$5,000. Figure 5 illustrates the distribution of average faculty ratings for the titles under review. The distribution of ratings by subject is included in Appendix A.

The average rank given to titles under review was 2.02. Nearly

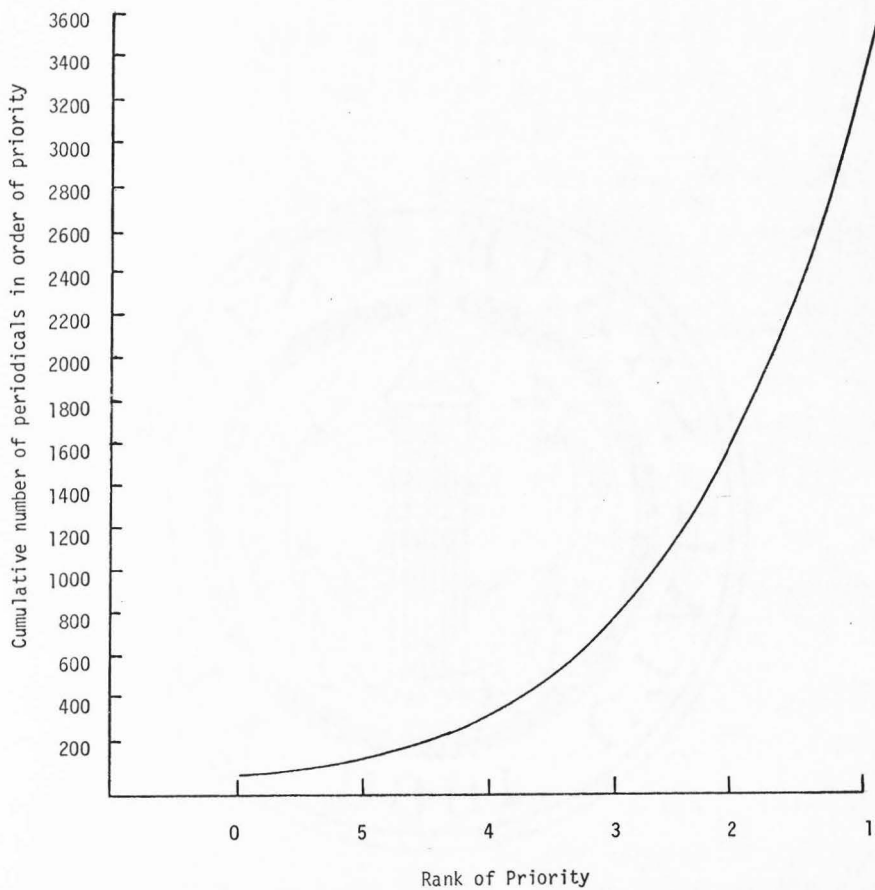


Figure 5. Cumulative distribution of average faculty ratings compiled during the serials review, 1977

half of the titles were evaluated to be in the absolutely essential first priority range: greater than or equal to one and less than two. Just over one quarter of the titles were ranked within the second priority range. Fourteen percent of the titles were rated as very useful within the third priority range, while only eight percent were ranked as marginal value or less.

Selection of the 163 titles for the candidates for cancellation list was based on prime user considerations. Titles whose average ratings were poor were examined to see if there were better individual ratings from what the library considered to be the prime users of the title.

Almost half of the titles whose average ratings were marginal were eliminated from the possible cancellations by this process. The number and price of the journals selected for the candidates for cancellation list is included in Table 10. The figures are listed by major subject area following the arrangement of the Subject Bibliography of Current Serials.

The 163 titles on the candidates for cancellation list represent nearly five percent of the total number of serials carried by the library, while their combined cost was just over two percent of what the Merrill Library expended on its 1975-76 serial subscriptions. The average price for these titles is about two-thirds that of the total library journal price average.

Final cancellation of titles did not occur until October 1977. Ninety-six titles were cut with a total subscription price of

Table 10. Number and price of serials included on the candidates
for cancellation list by subject

Subject	Number of titles	Cost of titles
Agriculture	17	\$ 426.38
Biological Sciences	7	176.00
Business	20	841.00
Communications	1	3.00
Education	17	278.00
Engineering	4	342.00
Fine Arts	3	35.00
Natural Resources	21	657.00
General	2	13.00
Newspapers	11	631.23
Home Economics	2	22.00
Humanities	15	314.92
Library Science	8	172.50
History and Geography	0	0
Physical Sciences	8	449.60
Pure Sciences	2	146.00
Social Sciences	14	310.05
Technology	11	261.56
Food and Nutrition	0	0
Total	163	\$5,079.67

\$3,498.79.¹ Two months later, the Merrill Library placed orders for over 90 subscriptions to new journal titles. The total cost of these subscriptions was about \$3,500.² The library had used the savings generated by the review to purchase needed new subscriptions, many of which were identified in the review. De-acquisition did not alleviate the pressures of rising prices.

Two de-acquisitions reviews conducted by the Merrill Library did not effectively lower the Library's serial expenditures. Each time serials were cut, orders for new subscriptions were placed. The cost of the new subscriptions negated the savings derived from the cancellations. Expenditures for serials continue to escalate and funds must be transferred from other areas of the Library's acquisitions budget to provide for these increases. The results of the Library's recent review of serials indicate that the faculty at Utah State University does not feel that even moderate cuts can be made in the Library's serial collection. The current holdings of the Merrill Library are considered insufficient for the needs of the University and further cancellations would only aggravate this situation.

Sharing Utah's Library Resources

The Merrill Library has attempted to augment its modest holdings

¹Titles cancelled are recorded in the minutes of the October 20, 1977 meeting of the Merrill Library Acquisitions Committee.

²Titles selected for ordering are recorded in the December 1971 minutes of the Merrill Library Acquisitions Committee.

by joining the Utah College Library Consortium (UCLC). This consortium was formed in 1972 by the administrators of the fourteen Utah college and university libraries for the purpose of cooperation. The goals of UCLC are:

To share information and ideas, to increase patron access to the services and collections of the academic libraries in Utah, to combat mounting problems that threaten the quality of academic library services, and to make more efficient use of available library funds.¹

UCLC has achieved some success toward these goals. Regularly scheduled meetings are held at which various committees report their deliberations and recommendations to UCLC's governing council for consideration and possible implementation. A shuttle service now offers prompt delivery of materials held by member institutions. The combined resources of the college and university libraries in Utah are thus made available to any of the member institutions.

There is evidence which suggests that the member institutions could use this increased accessibility to combat the effects of inflation. A substantial portion of the Merrill Library's serial subscriptions, for example, duplicate holdings of both the University of Utah libraries and the Brigham Young University libraries. The data shown in Table 11 indicate that 60 percent of the Merrill Library's serial subscriptions (not including gifts, exchanges or depository items) are duplicated at the other two institutions and that 83 percent of the Merrill Library's subscriptions are duplicated at either the University of Utah or Brigham Young University.

¹Utah College Library Consortium, UCLC 6th Annual Report, 1976-77 (n.p., n.d.).

The methodology employed to compile this data involved a comparison of the Merrill Library's current serial subscription lists with similar lists prepared by the other institutions. In all cases the serials are listed alphabetically by title. There are differences, however, in the criteria used by the three libraries to determine the actual title of a serial publication. If the Merrill Library listed a serial title in one way and the other two institutions chose to list that same title in another fashion, the fact that all three libraries subscribe to it may not have been recorded in the compilation. The data shown in Table 11 may thus exhibit a certain margin of error. This factor would tend to make the actual duplication rates higher than those recorded in Table 11.

This high rate of duplication has not paved the way for substantial reductions in the Merrill Library's serial expenditures. In preparing the lists that were distributed to the faculty during the library's recent review of serials (discussed in the preceeding section), the library indicated which of its subscriptions were duplicated at the University of Utah and at Brigham Young University. The faculty did not accept this as a compelling reason for the cancellation of a serial. This duplication may, in fact, indicate that there is an essential core collection of serials which must be included in every university library collection. The faculty's reluctance to part with serials even though they were held by neighboring institutions indicates a major problem in resource sharing in Utah.

Table 11. Percentage of current USU paid serial subscriptions duplicated at UofU and/or BYU

Subject Area of Serials	Serials at USU	Percentage Held Also At Uof U (only)	Percentage Held Also at BYU (only)	Percentage Held at USU and U of U and BYU	Percentage Held at USU and UofU Or BYU
Agriculture	203	4	34	20	59
Biological Sciences	566	16	6	66	89
Business	221	14	8	63	86
Communication	16	6	12	68	87
Education	243	7	6	60	74
Engineering	194	10	7	63	81
Fine Arts	86	19	10	56	87
Natural Resources	147	10	12	40	63
General Periodicals	202	12	12	51	91
Home Economics & Family Living	57	1	10	64	77
Humanities	227	11	6	74	92
Library & Information Science	116	16	11	56	84
National Defense	6	-	33	50	83
History and Geography	117	11	6	70	88
Physical Sciences	71	7	9	69	85
Pure Sciences	304	9	4	79	93
Social Sciences	510	13	6	59	80

Table 11. Continued.

Subject Area of Serials	Serials at USU	Percentage Held Also At UofU (only)	Percentage Held Also at BYU (only)	Percentage Held at USU and UofU and BYU	Percentage Held at USU and UofU Or BYU
Technology	93	8	15	55	79
Food and Nutrition	43	-	16	58	74
Total for All Areas	3,422	11	9	60	83

SOURCE: Compiled from Subject Bibliography of Current Serials.

Buying Serials at the Least Possible Price

Libraries which choose not to de-acquire serial subscriptions must face the rising costs of these materials. If budgets do not keep pace with inflation, the only alternative is to attempt purchasing serials at lower prices. The fact that libraries are charged considerably more for many journals than individual subscribers has stirred interest in this regard. Richard DeGennaro expressed the feeling that many hold on this subject.

The differential subscription rate, where libraries pay a substantially higher rate than individual subscribers, has become widespread, and publishers have come to view libraries as a captive market, the only appropriate response for librarians is to make decisions on practical and legal rather than on ethical grounds. With a little ingenuity, libraries can probably find legal ways of obtaining some of their most expensive journals at the lowest available market price. One way may be to get copies through personal subscribers.¹

Statements like this have given hope to library budget administrators beleaguered with escalating journal costs. Whether librarians have been able to implement any of the tantalizing possibilities DeGennaro offers is not easily discernable. It is not something one advertises, through reports in the literature. Research conducted on this matter has somewhat more restricted conclusions than what DeGennaro suggests. Herbert S. White reports that while the increased differentiation between library and individual rates is marked for all publisher groups, it reflects only

¹De Gennaro, "Escalating Journal Prices," pp. 71-72.

those publishers that do differentiate.¹ Many publishers do not. While the median library price for publications with different price structures has been steadily increasing over the individual subscriber price, there is no evidence that the practice of price structuring has become more widespread.

Of the publishers which do offer substantial dollar savings on individual subscriptions, many impose certain restrictions. The most common require that the institution to which the individual is associated takes out a library subscription or that the individual certify that the journal is for personal use only. The notice for specially reduced rates to individuals for Chemical Engineering Science published by Pergamon Press is a good illustration of this:

In the interests of maximizing the dissemination of the research results published in this important international journal, we have established a two-tier price structure. Any individual whose institution takes out a library subscription, may purchase a second or additional subscription for personal use at a reduced rate of \$30.00 (library rate \$165.00).²

For libraries which are ingenious enough to overcome this difficulty there are still other problems. To have an individual subscriber request that his reduced rate subscription be mailed directly to a library is to underestimate the intelligence of publishers. Mailing issues directly to faculty members, who it is assumed would be the individual subscribers, may, on the other hand, end up with a library paying a reduced rate for periodicals it never

¹White, "Publishers, Libraries and the Cost of Journal Subscriptions," p. 360.

²Chemical Engineering Science; Genie Chimique; A monthly publication of Pergamon Press.

receives. Establishing "dummy" post office boxes which are registered to the individual subscriber and maintained by the library may avoid this, but the cost of such an operation may be prohibitive.

The publishers side of two-tier price structuring must also be considered. They argue that reduced rates to individuals is in the interest of the dissemination of knowledge. White concludes that:

The charge that libraries are increasingly being asked to bear a larger share of the subscription price than in the past appears to be true. Librarians argue that they are being singled out because they are largely a captive market with little ability to make competitive decisions. Publishers respond that libraries are singled out to shoulder increased prices because, despite their poverty, they are still the most affluent group of subscribers available.¹

The fact that libraries have to shoulder the burden of increasing prices, that they must cope with the erosion of their purchasing power, has forced many crucial decisions affecting the size and growth of academic library collections. In libraries with limited budgets, de-acquisitions, especially of serial subscriptions, has helped them keep even with rising costs. Attempts to purchase library materials at reduced rates, while a tantalizing idea, does not appear to be a practical solution.

¹White, "Publishers, Libraries and the Cost of Journal Subscriptions," p. 364.

COLLECTION SIZE IN TIMES OF BUDGET RETRENCHMENT

Evaluating the Collection at the Merrill Library

The primary reason for the existence of libraries, their actual contents and holdings, can be measured both quantitatively and qualitatively. The quantity of a collection, its numerical size, is relatively simple to ascertain once a standard unit of measurement is determined. The quality of a collection, its relative excellence or its value in a particular situation, is more difficult to judge objectively.

George S. Bonn identified five distinct methods of collection evaluation in his review of the literature: (1) compiling statistics on holdings, use and budgets; (2) checking lists, catalogs, or bibliographies; (3) obtaining opinions from regular users; (4) examining the collection directly; and (5) applying standards.¹ Bonn suggested that these measures do not reveal enough of a library's true identity and concluded that: "Goals and objectives, quality, interlibrary cooperation, the needs of the community, and competent librarians all must be considered in evaluating a library's collection."²

Several independent studies (discussed below) aimed at evaluating the Merrill Library's collection have been made in the

¹George S. Bonn, "Evaluation of the Collection," Library Trends 22 (January 1974): 267.

²Ibid., p. 297.

last decade. None of these evaluations have considered all of the areas suggested by Bonn, but they do agree that the holdings of the Merrill Library are insufficient to support the needs of Utah State University and that massive funding is needed to correct this situation.

In 1968, the library was visited by an evaluation team of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, the organization which accredits Utah State University. In their evaluation of the Library's collection, the team examined budgets, checked library holdings against standard lists, and examined the collection directly. While the team concluded that the library was notable for the beginnings of a strong general collection, they cautioned that without massive funding, ". . . the library will not progress in step with the rest of the university program."¹ A critical situation would develop unless the collection were bolstered with substantial additions.

The alarm was again sounded in 1971 by the Utah State University chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). In a position paper entitled The USU Library: A Crisis, the AAUP found, through comparison of library budgets and holdings with those

¹ Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, Evaluation Report, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, (n.p., 1968) pp. 22-29.

of other institutions, that the library's holdings and funding were inadequate.¹ The AAUP estimated that the library would need to add 200,000 volumes to bring its holdings up to a level adequate for support of university programs.² This report also mentioned that the library staff had independently arrived at this same conclusion and had prepared detailed budget requests which specified that a \$550,000.00 increase in the library budget would be necessary to correct its financial condition over a five year period.³

The AAUP suggested several sources of money which could be used to bring the Merrill Library "out of mediocrity."⁴ A more modest football program might free more money for the library.⁵ A small levy on the students was also considered.⁶ The most promising recommendation was that ten percent of all indirect costs of federal grants received by the University be allocated to the library. The AAUP reported that Utah State University received \$802,000.00 in these indirect costs in 1970.⁷

¹American Association of University Professors, Utah State University Chapter, The USU Library: A Crisis, AAUP Position Paper (n.p., 1971), p. 8.

²Ibid., p. 9

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid., p. 10

⁵Ibid.

⁶Ibid.

⁷Ibid.

Two years later the AAUP presented another position paper on the library in an attempt to measure what action had been taken to bring the library up to par.¹ Again, the AAUP used national norms to evaluate the budgets and holdings of the Merrill Library. The AAUP hoped that some drastic measures had been taken to upgrade library holdings, but they reported that no such action had occurred.² While there had been a slight improvement in the situation, it did not appear to be enough to satisfy the needs of the university community.³

The faculty at Utah State University continued in their concern over the Merrill Library. Another independent review of the library was initiated by a 1977 resolution of the Faculty Senate. The resolution specified that the review be conducted by an independent team of experts from outside of the state, including two graduate university librarians, an efficiency expert, and two scholars, noted respectively, for their work in natural sciences and social sciences. The review team (hereafter referred to as the Kaufman Committee for its chairman, Dr. Charles N. Kaufman) received a considerable amount of background information pertaining to the library, prepared by the library staff, prior to their two-day visitation in early March, 1978. This information, together with their on-site evaluation and numerous

¹American Association of University Professors, Utah State University Chapter, The Status of the USU Library: A Biennial Report 1971-73, AAUP Position Paper (n.p. 1973), p. 1.

²Ibid., p. 10

³Ibid.

interviews with university administrators, faculty and students, formed the corpus of the Kaufman Committee's data.¹ The actual assessment of the library was based on its stated goals and objectives and the standards for college libraries as adopted by the Association for College and Research Libraries in 1975.

The report of the Kaufman Committee was presented to the Faculty Senate on May 15, 1978. In their report, the Committee commented that while the library's collection was generally adequate for the purpose of undergraduate instruction, the collection was inadequate for an institution offering graduate degrees.² The report further states:

Within the humanities, the social sciences and the sciences there were some pockets of collection strength as a graduate research library. But quality and quantity of books and serials varies significantly among the various disciplines. The library appears to be critically deficient³ in the quantity of monographic volumes within the collection.

The Committee also examined the monetary support given to the collection and concluded that:

This acquisitions budget is grossly inadequate for a research institution of Utah State's size and should be substantially increased as quickly as possible. The committee is unable to determine a precise dollar figure for recommending an increased appropriation to the library. However, it is the

¹ Charles N. Kaufman, et al., Report to the Utah State University Senate of the Utah State Library Visitation, Made on March 2-3, 1978, (n.p. 1978), p. 3.

² Ibid., p. 6.

³ Ibid., p. 7.

opinion of the committee that the collection should be increased as quickly as possible to a point where it is at least equal to that of peer institutions with holdings of 1 1/2 million volumes. If it is not possible to move in this direction, the committee urges that the acquisitions budget be increased a minimum of 100% immediately or as soon as possible.¹

Examining the total budget for academic support provided to the Merrill Library and Learning Resources Program during the years 1974-75 through 1976-77, the Kaufman Committee found that these budgets represented an average of just 2.55 percent of the University's total education and general expenditures.² The Kaufman report compared this percentage of support provided to the library with the six percent figure that was recommended by the Association of College and Research Libraries and concluded that . . . "it's quite apparent that MLLRP has not had allocations sufficient to maintain the scope of mission assigned to it."³

While the Kaufman Committee cited the library for insufficient funding, it did not specify that the library should receive six percent of the university's total education and general expenditures. During the discussion which followed Dr. Kaufman's presentation of his report to the Faculty Senate, it was noted that the six percent recommendation was intended to apply to libraries serving academic programs at the bachelors and masters degree levels. Dr. Gaurth Hansen, University Provost, presented the findings he had gathered

¹Ibid., p. 7

²Ibid., p. 27

³Ibid.

from a comparison with the ten institutions with which Utah State compares itself for comparable salary averages. The averages of these peer institutions for education and general funds allocated to their libraries were 3.5 percent.¹ As previously noted, however, that 3.5 percent may be too low for Utah State University considering that the Merrill Library is attempting to overcome past deficiencies and raise the grade of its collection.

These deficiencies were independently noted for a second time in 1978 in the evaluation report of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools.² In order to strengthen the Library's collection and overcome other accumulated inadequacies, the Northwest valuation committee recommended that the Merrill Library's budget ". . . should be increased to include over six percent of the total general and educational budget of the institution."³ The valuation team was furthermore, ". . . disturbed by the lack of progress in meeting [their] 1968 recommendation and strongly recommends that immediate attention be given to these continuing problems."⁴

¹Utah State University, Faculty Senate, Minutes of a Special meeting of the Faculty Senate: Report of the USU Library Visitation Committee, Meeting on May 15, 1978, p. 4.

²It should be noted that the principle library investigator for the 1978 visitation team of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, Dr. LeMoyne W. Anderson, Director of Libraries at Colorado State University, was also a member of the Kaufman Committee.

³Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, Evaluation Report, Utah State University, Logan, Utah, (n.p., 1978), p. 26

⁴Ibid., p. 81.

Comparison of the Holdings of the Merrill Library
with the Standards for College Libraries

A comparison of the library's holdings with national standards reveals some justification for this concern over the collection. The Standards for College Libraries adopted by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) in 1975 presents a realistic set of conditions which, if fulfilled, will provide an adequate academic library program.¹ The ACRL has established a formula for calculating the number of relevant volumes or volume-equivalents needed by an academic library based on the number of faculty, students, undergraduate fields and graduate fields supported by the library. Calculations for this formula relating to the Merrill Library and Utah State University are shown in Table 12. If the library can supply 100 percent of the 1,577,070 volumes that are called for in the formula, ACRL would grade it A. From 80 to 99 percent would receive a B grade. A grade of C would be assigned if 65 to 79 percent of the total could be supplied. A grade of D would result from supplying only 50 to 64 percent of the volumes or volume-equivalents calculated in the formula.

¹Association of College and Research Libraries, Standards for College Libraries, (Chicago: The Association, 1975), p. 3

Table 12. Formula for determining the relevant number of volumes needed by the Merrill Library to meet ACRL standards, Fall 1977.

Area of ^a ACRL formula	Allowance in Volumes for each area ^b	Variables at USU	Volumes Required
1. Basic Collection	85,000		85,000
2. FTE Faculty Member	100	462.806 ^c	46,280
3. FTE Student	15	9,436 ^d	141,540
4. Undergraduate major or minor field	350	195 ^e	68,250
5. Single master field	6,000	26 ^f	156,000
6. Masters field where higher degree is offered	3,000	31 ^g	93,000
7. 6th year specialist degree field	6,000	2 ^h	12,000
8. Doctoral field	25,000	39 ⁱ	975,000
Total Volumes Required			1,577,070

^aACRL, Standards for College Libraries, (Chicago: The Association, 1975), p. 4.

^bIbid.

^cFigures obtained from USU Budget Office and refer to FTE equivalents as of Fall Quarter, 1977

^dIbid.

^eThe "Lists of Fields" in Standards for College Libraries was used as a guide for determining USU undergraduate major and minor fields., USU, School of Graduates Studies

^f"List of Degrees offered by College, July 1977," n.p. n.d.

^gIbid.

^hIbid.

ⁱIbid.

In a recent report to the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, the Merrill Library listed a total of 1,159,172 holdings.¹ This figure represents 74.5 percent of the volumes required by the ACRL formula. The holdings reported by the library, however, include several formats of information. Many of these formats, such as maps, photographs, films, educational kits, and film strips, do not meet ACRL criteria and cannot be included in the total number of holdings. The ACRL standards use "volumes" as their basic unit of measurement.

A volume is defined as a physical unit of any printed, typewritten, handwritten, mimeographed, or processed work contained in one binding or portfolio, hardbound or paperbound, which has been cataloged, classified, and/or prepared for use. For purposes of this calculation microform holdings should be included by converting them to volume-equivalents. The number of volume equivalents held in microform should be determined by either actual count or by an averaging formula which considers each reel of microfilm as one, and five pieces of any other microformat as one volume-equivalent.²

The Microform holdings reported by the library were, likewise, given in straight piece counts rather than in ACRL volume-equivalents. Thus the holdings reported by the library are much greater than is allowed by the ACRL criteria.

Applying this criteria to the collection of the Merrill Library results in a total count of 825,133 volumes or volume equivalents

¹Utah State University, Utah State University in 1976-77: A Report to the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, (Logan, Utah: Utah State University, 1978) p. 782.

²Association of College and Research Libraries, Standards for College Libraries, p. 4.

(a discussion of the application of the ACRL criteria is included in Appendix B). The library thus drops from a grade of C down to a grade of D, holding only 52.3 percent of the volumes required by the ACRL standards for college libraries.

In order to hold 100 percent of the volumes required by the ACRL standards, the Merrill Library must acquire over 750,000 volumes.¹ Acquiring these volumes at current prices (previously discussed in Chapter 4) requires a total expenditure of well over ten million dollars. Recent trends in the library's budget indicate that it would be difficult to find funds for the price of excellence described in the ACRL standards.

Merrill Library Acquisitions Budgets

Examination of the data shown in Table 13 reveals that the Merrill Library's acquisitions budget has not increased in the measure recommended by the AAUP in their "crisis" position paper. Far from being increased by a \$550,000 adjustment, budgets for library acquisitions exceeded \$325,000.00 in only one of the past six years.

Funds for acquisitions at the Merrill Library derive from several sources. Initial allocations from the University's general fund account provide for most of the library's acquisitions budget. The library supplements its budget with other funds. Federal aid

¹ It should be noted that if every item in the U.S. Government Documents collection were counted as an ACRL "volume," the Merrill Library would be much closer to the ACRL standards.

Table 13. Merrill Library acquisition budgets 1971-72 through 1976-77.

Source of funds	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
Initial Allocation	\$200,000.00	\$217,500.00	\$209,500.00	\$251,650.00	\$355,500.00	\$325,000.00
Adjustments	50,000.00		94,200.00	38,152.30	140,000.00	-54,419.17 ^a
Title II-A	7,800.00	45,170.00	5,000.00	4,235.00	3,918.00	3,930.00
Book Sales & Fines	843.93	1,253.01	2,156.35	7,668.33	3,941.00	6,114.51
Gifts	8,241.52	4,545.89	10,183.84	11,894.96	8,460.08	12,337.99
Total Budget	\$266,885.45	\$268,468.90	\$321,040.19	\$313,600.59	\$511,792.08	\$292,963.33

^aThis amount was loaned to the library late in fiscal 1975-76 (it appears as part of the \$140,000.00 adjustment for that year) and was repaid early in 1976-77.

SOURCE: Compiled from the financial reports of the Merrill Library--BATAB Materials Budget Summary Fund Status Reports, for the years indicated.

NOTE: These figures represent acquisitions budgets only. See Appendix C for an overview of the entire MLLRP budget and projections for 1977-78 and 1978-79.

to the Merrill Library, in the form of Title II-A grants, totaled \$70,000 during the period 1971-72 through 1976-77. In the academic year 1972-73, the library received a special purpose title II-A grant of \$45,170.00. This type of federal assistance has diminished in recent years. Title II-A grants to the library amounted to less than \$4,000 in both 1975-76 and 1976-77.

Gift monies, the proceeds of the sale of surplus books, and fines charged for lost books also augment the Library's acquisitions budget. During the last six years funds from these sources averaged \$11,250.00 per year.

Additional support for acquisitions comes in the form of administrative adjustments to the initial budget allocation. This help is desperately needed to bolster library resources, but it often arrives late in the budget period and it must be expended before that period ends. Such a situation hinders the process of planned collection development and often encourages the purchase of large program packages, such as the American Cultural Series, which offer the opportunity for quick and easy expenditure of funds.

In fiscal 1975-76, adjustments to the budget totaled \$140,000.00. More funds were available for acquisitions in that year than ever before. Part of this adjustment, however, was loaned to the library and had to be repaid in the next fiscal year. In order to avoid over-commitment, the library prepaid a certain portion of its serial subscriptions with these funds. The effects of repaying the loan were thus lessened. Operating under these conditions, however, wherein

the amount of funds available for acquisitions fluctuates and may not be determined until well until to budget period frustrates planning for the orderly development of the Library's collection.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Objectives

At the beginning of this study, the objectives were:

1. To describe the historical development of American academic library collections.
2. To demonstrate the effects of escalating prices for library materials on the acquisition patterns of the Merrill Library.
3. To analyze methods employed to reduce the effects of inflationary prices for library materials.
4. To report trends and conditions that may influence the future of acquisitions of the Merrill Library.

Results

Over the past two centuries, American academic library collections experienced spectacular growth. College and university library collections, which in 1801 held less than 50,000 volumes, expanded to 436,604,214 volumes by 1975. Book budgets steadily increased in an attempt to acquire much of the vast amount of new publications issued from all parts of the world. Libraries cooperated among themselves and with the federal government to build comprehensive research collections.

This exponential expansion of library collections has slackened in recent years. The growth rates of academic library budgets have

declined. Federal aid to academic libraries, in the form of Title II-A grants, has also declined. Several cooperative acquisitions programs have ceased to exist. A new form of cooperation has emerged which allows member institutions the opportunity of not acquiring costly materials of marginal value. Instead, they may borrow such items from a depository when they are needed. The Center for Research Libraries is an example of this new era of cooperation.

The recent decline in collection growth rates may indicate that American academic libraries are reaching the point of saturation. Academic library collections, that grew during the thirty-five years between 1940 and 1975 at an exponential rate approaching the third power, cannot be expected to continue to grow and grow until they reach infinity. Academic libraries must, nonetheless, continue to add to their holdings; to accumulate and disseminate knowledge and thereby provide the common bond between all disciplines represented in a university community.

The Merrill Library has witnessed a similar decline in the growth rates of its collection. This comes at a critical time in the Library's development. From the time it was instituted as a part of the College, the Library has experienced an ever widening gap between its holdings and the needs of the College. As the Agricultural College of Utah grew and developed into Utah State University, the Library's holdings lagged behind and were continually criticized as inadequate to support the institution. The Library was unable to capitalize upon the campus-wide expansion which occurred during this transition from College to University status. In fact, the ratio

of library expenditures to the total university education and general expenditures declined during this period.

It has been only since construction began on the new building in 1963 that substantial gains have been made in the library's collection. These recent gains, however, are deceiving. While these increases were dramatic during the late sixties and early seventies, they have declined significantly in recent years in several important categories. The serial subscription list and the acquisition of classified books have both fallen victims of this recent decline. This situation is critical, for a library's collection of classified books and serial subscriptions are the touchstone upon which it is judged.

The past twenty years have been devoted to laying the foundation of a collection adequate to support the diversity and caliber of a growing university. While the university continues to expand its frontiers to include new fields of curriculum and research, declining growth rates indicate that the library will be hard pressed to keep pace.

The specter of spiralling inflation also casts a dark shadow over prospects for enlarging the Library's holdings. Between 1970 and 1976, the average subscription price of American periodicals increased by 116 percent, while the consumer price index rose only 46.6 percent for the same period.

The Merrill Library has shared in this inflation borne atrophy of acquisitions. Average prices for the Library's serial subscriptions are much higher than those reported in the national literature. The Library's foreign subscriptions, which are not included in the national

surveys, raise the average price of the Library's subscriptions considerably. Expensive scientific publications, which comprise a major portion of the Library's serial expenditures, tend to raise the average prices even higher.

The extent of the burden placed on the Merrill Library's budget by scientific serials is evident in the data shown in Table 14. The percentage of expenditure and title distribution for each subject area of the Library's 1976-77 paid serial subscriptions shown in Table 14 was tabulated from the data previously reported in Table 9. Serials in the Biological and Pure Sciences, which account for 26 percent of the number of paid serial subscriptions, require 47 percent of the Merrill Library's Serial expenditures.

The average price of the Merrill Library's serial subscriptions increased 24 percent between 1974 and 1976. Acquisitions budgets have not kept pace with this double-digit inflation. Over the past decade escalating serial prices have produced several critical years, but by transferring funds that would have been used to purchase books, adjustments have been made to keep the subscription of journals more or less stable. This has, however, resulted in unstable and reduced budgets for the purchase of books. The amount of funds siphoned from the book budget to pay for serial price increases during the past ten years was \$50,000.00 more than the total library acquisitions budget for 1976-77. If this practice of transferring funds continues, it is conceivable that the escalating prices of serial publications may reach a point at which no funds would be left for the purchase of books, and the overwhelming majority of the library's expenditures for

Table 14. Percentage of title and expenditure distribution for the Merrill Library's 1976-77 serial subscriptions.

Subject Area	Percentage of Expenditures	Percentage of Titles
Agriculture	4	6
Biological Sciences	23	17
Business	5	7
Communication	less than 1	less than 1
Education	3	7
Engineering	4	6
Fine Arts	1	2
Natural Resources	4	4
General	12	6
Home Economics	less than 1	2
Humanities	2	7
Library Science	3	3
History	1	3
Physical Science	2	2
Pure Science	24	9
Social Science	8	15
Technology	3	3
Food and Nutrition	1	1

SOURCE: Compiled from Subject Bibliography of Current Serials

acquisitions would go solely for the purchase of scientific serials.

Weeding library collections of costly serial subscriptions has been suggested as a means to alleviate the effects of inflation. Proponents of weeding, now termed "de-acquiring," argue that a substantial portion of a library's book and serial holdings are rarely used and could be de-acquired if available through interlibrary loan from other institutions. Opponents to this argue that while certain types of use can be measured, there is no way to assure that anything de-acquired may not be needed sometime in the future, and that relying on another institution to provide for materials one library has de-acquired only shifts the burden and does not alleviate the problem.

Two de-acquisitions reviews conducted by the Merrill Library did not effectively lower the Library's serial expenditures. Each time serials were cut, orders for new subscriptions were placed. The cost of the new subscriptions negated the savings derived from the cancellations. Expenditures for serials continue to escalate and funds must be transferred from other areas of the Library's acquisitions budget to provide for these increases.

The results of the Library's recent review of serials indicate that the faculty at Utah State University does not feel that even moderate cuts can be made in the Library's serial collection. This is in spite of the fact that a substantial number of the Merrill Library's serial subscriptions duplicate holdings at two neighboring institutions, and could be obtained in a reasonable amount of time

through interlibrary loan. The faculty did not accept this as a suitable alternative for having the title on hand in the Merrill Library. Writing in 1944, Fremont Rider argued that this was bound to be the case; scholars "all seem to be amazingly unanimous: they seem to have a desire . . . to have their research materials available, not in New York or California, but under their own finger tips wherever they may happen to be working."¹ Scholars working at Utah State University have indicated that they want their research materials at their finger tips.

Several independent studies conducted during the last decade concluded that the holdings of the Merrill Library were insufficient to support the needs of Utah State University and that massive funding was needed to correct this situation. Examination reveals that the Merrill Library's acquisitions budget has not increased in the measure recommended by these studies. Far from being increased by the \$550,000.00 adjustment suggested by both the AAUP and the Library staff, budgets for library acquisitions exceeded \$325,000.00 in only one of the past six years. The two most recent independent studies were completed in the spring of 1978. The Kaufman Report, authorized by the Faculty Senate, confirmed earlier studies by concluding that while the Library's collection was generally adequate for the purpose of undergraduate instruction, the collection was inadequate for an institution offering graduate degrees. Specifically, the Library was

¹Fremont Rider, The Scholar and the Future of the Research Library. (New York: Hadham Press, 1944), p. 82.

critically deficient in the quantity of monographic volumes (classified books) it contained. The findings of the Valuation Committee of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools further confirmed the inadequacies of the library's holdings. Their 1978 report noted their distress over the lack of progress that had been made during the past decade in meeting their 1968 recommendations.

Both the Kaufman Report and the Report of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools concluded that the Merrill Library had not received funding sufficient to provide for the needs of its patrons. The Kaufman Committee hinted that Utah State University should follow the ACRL guidelines wherein six percent of the total university education and general expenditures be allocated to the library. The Accreditation Report of the Northwest Association was most specific in recommending that the Library's budget be increased to over six percent of these expenditures.

It should be noted that these ACRL guidelines were originally intended to apply to libraries serving academic programs at the bachelors and masters degree level only. Comparative studies conducted by the University administration on institutions similar in size to Utah State University found that an average of 3.5 percent of those institutions education and general expenditures were allocated to their libraries. The problem with using this comparison however, lies in the inadequacies of the Library's collection; inadequacies which have accumulated over a considerable period of time.

Comparison indicates that the Library's collection presently contains only 52.3 percent of the volumes recommended by the

Association of College and Research Libraries' Standards for Collection Libraries. In order to hold 100 percent of the volumes recommended by the ACRL Standards, the Merrill Library must acquire over 750,000 volumes. Acquiring these volumes at current prices requires a total expenditure of well over ten million dollars. Considering the meager adjustments that have been added to the library's acquisitions budget over the past six years, it is difficult to imagine that funds can be provided to pay for the price of excellence described in the ACRL standards. These adjustments often arrived late in the budget period and had to be hastily expended. Operating under these conditions, wherein the amount of funds available for acquisitions fluctuates and may not be determined well until the budget period frustrates planning for the orderly development of the library's collection.

Recommendations

There is an imbalance between the modest holdings of the Merrill Library and the expanding needs of Utah State University. Theoretically, equilibrium could be achieved by either increasing the library's holdings or cutting back the University's programs which rely on Library holdings. The latter alternative is neither appealing nor realistic. Any future expansion of University curriculum or research, however, must consider and provide for adequate supporting library resources. The former alternative, increasing library holdings, is the only practical solution to the problem.

It has been suggested that a library need not increase its actual holdings to meet the demands of its patrons. Instead, the library

could increase its access to the holdings of other libraries. There is a flaw in this plan, however, and it is revealed in the declining growth rates of American academic library collections. Can a library, which is unable to acquire needed volumes, rely on another library, which may be facing the same situation, for those volumes? And if that other library is not yet in a budget squeeze, will not this additional burden soon force financial problems upon it?

Cooperative programs exist, such as the Center for Research Libraries, which do provide solely for the needs of their member institutions and do not serve a resident population. If Utah State University continues to expand its areas of interest, the Merrill Library should well consider either becoming a member of one of these programs or working to establish one within the State of Utah. This type of cooperation, however, can provide only for the Library's marginal needs. The faculty members of Utah State University have demonstrated a desire to have most of their research materials close at hand within the actual collection of the Merrill Library.

It remains, then, that the Merrill Library must acquire substantial additions to its collection. This is not the first time that this recommendation has been made. Independent studies, as well as in-house library reports, have urged for increased library budgets for some time. The data contained in this study indicates that the Merrill Library has not received the larger acquisitions budgets needed to bolster its collection. Indeed, acquisitions budgets have not even kept pace with the rising prices of library materials. The Library has spent most of its existence fighting for a collection

which is adequate for the needs of the campus. During the past ten years, the Merrill Library's collection has been scathed by double-digit inflation and budget squeezes. This atrophy of acquisitions will continue until the basic commitment to the library as an essential university resource is reasserted.

It is therefore recommended, that the Merrill Library's budget allocation be substantially increased so that the ratio of Library expenditures to the total education and general university expenditures averages five percent over the next five years. This will allow the library to buildup to the recommendations made by the recent review teams. Substantial progress will have been made, after five years, toward correcting the accumulated inadequacies in all areas of concern. An assessment of the situation at that time will reveal the library's ability to provide adequate services with funding of a measure equivalent to institutions similar to Utah State University.

It is imperative that the library increase its acquisitions budget so that it can expand its collection. Serious consideration, however, must be given to the concept of quality versus quantity. Meeting the ACRL Standards requires the acquisition of 750,000 volumes. This vast corpus of new material would certainly contain the items required by the library's patrons. But there would also be more; more than what is necessary or than would be used by the university community. A more modest program geared to quality and reflecting the specific interests of this institution will build an adequate collection. It is therefore recommended that the library's acquisition budget be increased to \$750,000.00 within three years and

then to \$900,000.00 within five years. Again, an assessment of the collection at the end of this five year period will reveal if the funding should continue at this level or become equivalent to the funding provided to library's of institutions similar to Utah State University. It is essential, however, that acquisitions budgets established after this period receive annual increases of at least equal to the current rate of inflation of library materials and not merely reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index.

To insure the integrity of the acquisitions budget and to facilitate the planned development of the library's collection, all acquisitions funds should be maintained in a distinct account. Furthermore, it is recommended that this account reflect a non-lapsing status similar to that currently employed by the University of Utah. This would guarantee that funds transferred into the acquisitions account late in the fiscal year need not be hastily expended. Moreover, funds transferred into such a non-lapsing account are restricted to that account and cannot be expended for other purposes.

Several sources should be tapped to provide the funds necessary for improving the library and its collection. Legislative assistance has traditionally been called upon in such circumstances. Specific requests for library funding should continue to be made to the legislature, but these requests should be only one part of a varied program to develop funds. The university must first demonstrate its own commitment to the library. This can be accomplished by raising money for several sources on campus, each of which may appear to produce small yields, but when taken as a total will add up to substantial support for the library. It is therefore recommended that

the following sources be considered in addition to legislative assistance:

1. In 1927, a \$3.00 library fee was paid by students at registration. If this fee is reinstated, it would not only demonstrate the students commitment to improving their library, but would also generate over \$85,000.00 annually.

2. A considerable amount of money is generated each year from the research conducted at Utah State University. The university receives a certain percentage of these funds which are established as indirect costs for research. The amount of these funds distributed to the library can be increased. For example, the formula which determines the percentage of indirect costs expended by the library in support of grants and contracts with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare is based on statistics which reflect only the usage of materials which have been checked out of the library. Thus those materials which do not circulate, such as journals are not reflected in these calculations. Journals and other serials, however, represent the lions-share of the acquisitions budget and are heavily used to support research activities. The granting institution also recognizes that this method may be inequitable and provides that other methods of determining indirect costs may be employed.¹ Utilizing more equitable methods would provide a more accurate figure which would

¹U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, A Guide for Colleges and Universities: Cost Principles and Procedures for Establishing Indirect Cost and Other Rates for Grants and Contracts. (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1974), p. 21.

reflect a higher percentage of indirect costs borne by the library. The university would then realize more overhead funds which could, in turn, be awarded to the library.

3. The University boasts of an effective development organization. The library should be more than merely one of the many development projects; it should receive the highest priority in the solicitation of gift money. A major development program should be organized around the library's needs in the areas of its collection, staff and space.

4. The Merrill Library is the heart of Utah State University. Its collection provides the common denominator between all disciplines represented on campus. If the library's collection suffers, the entire university suffers both in lack of adequate resources and in the loss of prestige. With this in mind, a hard look should be given to all university budgets. The library must receive a substantial increase to its allocation from a reprioritization of university needs. This is necessary to assert the university's commitment to its library. Such a commitment has been wanting for a long time. To deny it now would not merely postpone the problem, it would insure the decline in Utah State University's reputation as an institution of excellence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Agricultural College of Utah. Biennial Reports of the Board of Trustees, 1900 to 1922. Logan and Salt Lake City: Various publishers, 1900-1922.
- Allen, Kenneth S. Current and Emerging Budgeting Techniques in Academic Libraries. Washington, D. C.: Council on Library Resources, 1972.
- American Library Association. ALA Yearbook, 1976. Chicago: American Library Association, 1976.
- American Library Association. Library Statistics. Chicago: The Association, 1966.
- American National Standards Institute. American National Standard Criteria for Price Indexes for Library Materials. New York: The Institute, 1974.
- American Association of University Professors. Utah State University Chapter. The Status of the USU Library: A Biennial Report 1971-73. AAUP Position Paper, n.p., 1973.
- American Association of University Professors Utah State University Chapter. The USU Library: A Crisis. AAUP Position Paper, n.p., 1971.
- Anderld, Georges J. "The Growth of Scientific and Technical Information--A Challenge." Information 23(1974):1-52.
- Association of College and Research Libraries. "College and University Library Statistics, 1955-56." College and Research Libraries 18(January, 1957):48-79.
- Association of College and Research Libraries. "College and University Library Statistics, 1956-57." College and Research Libraries 19(January, 1958):49-83.
- Association of College and Research Libraries. "College and University Library Statistics, 1957-58." College and Research Libraries 20(January 1959):27-62.
- Association of College and Research Libraries. "College and University Library Statistics, 1958-59," 21 (January, 1960):25-88.

- Association of College and Research Libraries. Standards for College Libraries. Chicago: The Association, 1975.
- Baily, Stephen K. "The Future of College and Research Libraries." College and Research Libraries: 39(January 1978):4-9.
- Bonn, George S. "Evaluation of the Collection." Library Trends 22(January, 1974):265-304.
- Brown, Norman B. "Price Indexes for 1976 U.S. Periodicals and Serial Services." Library Journal 101 (August 1976):1600-1605.
- Buckland, Michael K. Book Availability and the Library User. New York: Pergamon Press, 1975.
- Clasquin, Frank F. "Periodical Prices: A Three-year Comparative Study." Library Journal 99 (October 1974): 2447-2449.
- Clasquin, Frank F., and Cohen, Jackson B. "Prices of Physics and Chemistry Journals." Science 197 (29 July 1977): 432-437.
- Cutter, Charles Ammi. "The Development of Public Libraries." Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1900. Vol. 2. U.S. Congress. House. H. Doc. 5, 56th Cong., 2nd Sess., 1901. pp. 1352-1359.
- De Gennaro, Richard. "Austerity, Technology, and Resource Sharing; Research Libraries Face the Future." Library Journal 100 (May 1975): 917-923.
- De Gennaro, Richard. "Escalating Journal Prices: Time to Fight Back." American Libraries 8 (February 1977); 69-74.
- De Gennaro, Richard. "Public Notice: we, the librarians, are No Longer Responsible for the Debts of Our Former Suitors." American Libraries 6 (September 1975): 456-457.
- Dessauer, Paul, et al. Library Acquisitions: A Look into the Future. New York: Book Industry Study Group, 1976.
- Downs, Robert B. "Future Prospects of Library Acquisitions." Library Trends 18 (January 1970): 412-421.
- Downs, Robert B. "The Growth of Research Collections." Library Trends 25 (July 1976): 55-80.
- Downs, Robert B. "Wartime Co-operative Acquisitions." Library Quarterly 19 (July 1945): 157-165.
- Drake, Miriam A. Price Trends Affecting Academic Library Budgets. Tech. Report Series. Lafayette, Ind.: Purdue University, Audio-visual Center, 1975.

- Fisher, Sheldon Z. and Stevens, Frank A. "Higher Education Act, Title II-A, College Library Resources." IN: Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1977. New York: R. R. Bowker, 1977.
- Fussier, Herman H., and Simon, Julian L. Patterns in the Use of Books in Large Research Libraries. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969.
- Fussler, Herman H. Research Libraries and Technology. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1973.
- Garfield, Eugene. "Citation Analysis as a Tool in Journal Evaluation." Science 178 (November 1972): 473-482.
- Gore, Daniel (Ed.) Farewell to Alexandria: Solutions to Space, Growth and Performance Problems in Libraries. Westport, Conn., Greenwood Press, 1976.
- Gore, Daniel. "The View from the Tower of Babel." Library Journal 100 (September 1975): 1601-1604.
- Jeppson, Maude. The Library of the Utah State Agricultural College; A History. n.p.: Typescript, 1950.
- Johnson, Elmer D. Communication. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1973.
- Jordan, Robert T. Tomorrow's Libraries; Direct Access and Delivery. New York: R. R. Bowker, 1970.
- Kaufman, Charles N., et al. Report to the Utah State University Senate of the Utah State Library Visitation, Made on March 2-3, 1978. n.p., 1973.
- Kent, Allen and Galvin, Thomas J. Library Resource Sharing. New York: Marcel Dekker, 1977.
- Licklider, J. C. R. Libraries of the Future. Cambridge, Mass.: Massachusetts Institute of Technology Press, 1965.
- Low, Edmon. "Federal Legislation Affecting College and University Libraries." Library Trends 19 (October 1970): 200-211.
- Lynch, Beverly P. "The Changing Environment of Academic Libraries." College and Research Libraries 39 (January 1978): 10-14.
- Machlup, Fritz. "Our Libraries: Can We Measure Their Holdings and Acquisitions." American Association of University Professors Bulletin 62 (Autumn 1976): 303-307.

- Melcher, Daniel. Melcher on Acquisitions. Chicago: American Library Association, 1971.
- Munthe, Wilhelm. American Librarianship from a European Angle. Chicago: American Library Association, 1939.
- N.A. "Highlights of Book Trade Statistics 1976-77." Publishers Weekly 215 (20 February 1978): 65-71.
- N.A. "Research Acquisitions Programs Fold." American Libraries 4 (February 1973): 78.
- Nisbet, Robert. "The Liberal Arts in the Year 2000." IN: Proceedings, Reports, and Addresses. Edited by Charles D. Hounshel. Atlanta: Southern University Conference, 1974.
- Northwest Association of Secondary and High Schools. Evaluation Report, Utah State University. n.p., 1968.
- Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools. Evaluation Report, Utah State University. n.p., 1978.
- Ricks, Joel Edward. Utah State Agricultural College; A History of Fifty Years. Salt Lake City: The Deseret News Press, 1938.
- Rider, Fremont. The Scholar and the Future of the Research Library. New York: Hadham Press, 1944.
- Samore, Theodore. "College and University Library Statistics." IN: Bowker Annual of Library and Book Trade Information, 1977. New York: R. R. Bowker, 1977.
- Savary, Martin J. The Latin American Cooperative Acquisitions Program. (New York: Hafner Pub. Co.) 1968.
- Schmidt, James C. "Resource Allocation in University Libraries in the 1970's and Beyond." Library Trends 23 (April 1975): 643-648.
- Smith, Alan Carter. "The Higher Education Act, Title II-A; Its Impact on the Academic Library." Library Trends 24 (July 1975): 63-84.
- Spyers-Duran, Peter, and Gore, Daniel. Economics of Approval Plans. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1972.
- Spyers-Duran, Peter, and Gore, Daniel. (Eds.) Management Problems in Serials Work. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1974.
- Trueswell, Richard W. "Some Behavioral Patterns of Library Users: The 80/20 Rule." Wilson Library Bulletin. 43 (January 1969): 458-461.

- Trueswell, Richard W. "A Quantitative Measure of User Circulation Requirements and Its Possible Effect on Stack Thinning and Multiple Copy Determination." American Documentation 16 (January 1965): 20-25.
- Trueswell, Richard W. "Two Characteristics of Circulation and Their Effect on the Implementation of Mechanized Circulation Control Systems." College and Research Libraries 25 (July 1964): 285-291.
- U.S. Congress. House. Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1876: Vol. 2, H. Exec. Doc. 1, 44th Cong., 1st Sess., 1877.
- U.S. Congress. House. Report of the Commissioner of Education, 1900. Vol. 2, H. Doc. 5, 56th Cong., 2nd Sess., 1901.
- U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. A Guide for Colleges and Universities: Cost Principles and Procedures for Establishing Indirect Cost and Other Rates for Grants and Contracts. Washington, D.C. Government Printing Office, 1974.
- U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Office of Education. Library Statistics for Colleges and Universities, 1959, 1960, Part I, Institutional Data. Washington, D.C. Government Printing Office, 1962.
- U.S. Department of Interior. Bureau of Education. Public Libraries in the United States of America. Special Report, Pt. 1 (1876).
- U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Survey of the Interlibrary Loan Operation of the National Library of Medicine, by William H. Kurth. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1962.
- U.S. Federal Security Agency. Office of Education. Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1939-40. Vol. 2, Chap. 6. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1943.
- U.S. Federal Security Agency. Office of Education. Biennial Survey of Education in the United States, 1941-42. Vol. 2, Chap. 2. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1944.
- U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. Toward a National Program for Library and Information Services; Goals for Action. Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1975.
- Utah College Library Consortium. UCLC 6th Annual Report, 1976-77. n.p., n.d.

- Utah State Agricultural College. Biennial Reports of the Board of Trustees, 1924-1954. Logan and Salt Lake: Various publishers (typescript from 1932-54), 1924-1954.
- Utah State University, Faculty Senate. Minutes of a special meeting of the Faculty Senate: Report of the USU Library Visitation Committee, May 15, 1978.
- Utah State University. Utah State University in 1976-77: A Report to the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges. Logan, Utah: Utah State University, 1978.
- Utah State University. Merrill Library. Subject Bibliography of Current Serials, 1976. Logan, Utah: USU Merrill Library, 1976.
- Watkins, David R. "Standards for University Libraries." Library Trends 21 (October 1972): 190-203.
- Wenger, Charles B., and Childress, Judith. "Journal Evaluation in a Large Research Library." ASIS 28 (September 1977): 293-299.
- White, Herbert S. "Publishers, Libraries and the Cost of Journal Subscriptions in Times of Funding Retrenchment." Library Quarterly 46 (October 1976): 359-377.
- Williams, Edwin E. Farmington Plan Handbook. Rev. Ed. Ithaca, New York: Association of Research Libraries, 1961.
- Williams, Gordon. Background and Proposal for a National Lending Library for Journals. Washington, D.C.: Council on Library Resources, 1972.
- Williams, Gordon. "Inter-Library Loans: The Experience of the Center for Research Libraries." UNESCO Bulletin for Libraries 28 (March-April 1974): 73-78.
- Zais, Harriet W. "Economic Modeling: An Aid to the Pricing of Information Services." ASIS 28 (March 1977): 89-95.

APPENDIXES

Appendix A

Tabulation of Faculty Priority Rankings for USU

Serial Subscriptions Compiled During the

Serials Review, 1977

Table 15. Tabulation of faculty priority rankings for USU paid subscriptions compiled during the serials review, 1977.

SUBJECT	Total Ranked	\bar{x} Mean rank	# Ranked from 1. to 1.999	# Ranked from 2. to 2.999	# Ranked from 3. to 3.999	# Ranked from 4. to 4.999	# Ranked at 5	# Not Ranked
AGRICULTURE (TOTAL)	195	2.30	63	69	44	16	3	7
General Agriculture	33	2.88	4	14	9	5	1	0
Agronomy	39	2.62	15	8	9	6	1	0
Agricultural Technology	2	1.00	2	0	0	0	0	0
Animal Husbandry	34	1.99	11	11	10	2	0	0
Dairy Industry	18	2.50	3	9	4	2	0	0
Feed, Flour, and Grain	6	2.27	1	4	1	0	0	0
Horticulture	16	1.75	7	7	1	1	0	7
Agricultural Economics	4	1.96	2	1	1	0	0	0
Agricultural Education	2	1.00	2	0	0	0	0	0
Veterinary Science	19	2.10	7	5	6	0	1	0
Agricultural Engineering	5	1.70	4	1	0	0	0	0
Biometeorology and Meteorology	17	2.21	5	9	3	0	0	0
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (TOTAL)	563	2.01	275	223	45	15	5	1
General Biology	81	2.53	13	48	18	2	0	0
Anatomy and Physiology	22	1.83	11	10	1	0	0	0
Cellular Biology	26	2.00	14	10	2	0	0	0
Genetics	23	1.73	16	7	0	0	0	1
Microbiology	22	2.35	5	12	5	0	0	0
Parasitology	8	2.20	2	4	2	0	0	0
Virology	8	1.80	6	2	0	0	0	0
Biophysics and Biochemistry	35	1.76	24	11	0	0	0	0
Microscopy	6	2.03	2	4	0	0	0	0
General Botany	67	1.97	28	38	1	0	0	0
Mycology	4	1.07	4	0	0	0	0	0
Phytopathology	6	1.25	6	0	0	0	0	0
General Zoology	24	2.11	9	12	3	0	0	0
Entomology	48	1.20	48	0	0	0	0	0
Ornithology	14	1.78	10	4	0	0	0	0
General Medical Sciences	66	1.89	37	21	7	0	1	0
Endocrinology	7	1.30	7	0	0	0	0	0
Gerontology and Geriatrics	4	1.22	4	0	0	0	0	0
Nursing	14	2.17	7	5	0	0	2	0
Pathology	11	2.04	4	7	0	0	0	0
Pediatrics	6	2.34	1	5	0	0	0	0
Pharmacology	28	2.34	5	18	3	1	1	0
Psychiatry	10	2.31	4	2	2	2	0	0
Public Health and Hygiene	17	3.26	3	2	1	10	1	0
Cancer	6	1.66	5	1	0	0	0	0

Table 15. Continued

SUBJECT	Total Ranked	% Mean rank	# Ranked from 1. to 1.999	# Ranked from 2. to 2.999	# Ranked from 3. to 3.999	# Ranked from 4. to 4.999	# Ranked at 5	# Not Ranked
BUSINESS (TOTAL)	213	1.93	126	49	16	20	2	13
Accounting	8	1.37	5	3	0	0	0	0
Advertising	5	2.17	2	2	0	1	0	0
Banking and Finance	39	1.53	30	7	2	0	0	0
Business Education	11	1.00	11	0	0	0	0	5
Commerce	9	2.53	4	2	1	2	0	0
Economics	41	2.26	20	7	5	8	1	0
Management	57	2.08	30	16	6	5	0	0
Insurance	4	1.62	3	1	0	0	0	1
Labor and Industrial Relations	11	1.39	8	3	0	0	0	7
Marketing	18	2.16	8	7	1	1	1	0
General Business	10	2.38	5	1	1	3	0	0
COMMUNICATIONS (TOTAL)	16	1.54	12	1	2	1	0	0
Journalism	7	1.42	5	1	1	0	0	0
Radio and Television	5	2.00	3	0	1	1	0	0
Speech	4	1.17	4	0	0	0	0	0
EDUCATION (TOTAL)	242	2.22	110	72	33	19	8	0
General Education	99	2.57	31	38	13	12	5	0
Adult Education	3	1.33	2	1	0	0	0	0
Curriculum	3	3.01	0	1	1	1	0	0
Elementary Education	21	1.50	17	3	0	1	0	0
Guidance and Counseling	4	3.00	0	1	2	1	0	0
Higher Education	22	2.32	8	9	4	1	0	0
Physical Education	9	2.44	4	0	3	2	0	0
Secondary Education	2	1.00	2	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	17	1.97	9	8	0	0	0	0
Speech Therapy and Audiology	19	1.67	14	3	2	0	0	0
Vocational, Technical and Career Education	14	3.15	2	3	5	1	3	0
Moore Library	29	1.50	21	5	3	0	0	0
ENGINEERING (TOTAL)	190	2.36	58	94	32	6	0	4
Aeronautics, Space Flight, and Nautical Studies	17	2.88	0	11	5	1	0	0
Architecture	15	2.68	2	9	3	1	0	1
Chemical Engineering	14	2.35	1	11	2	0	0	0
Civil and Environmental Engineering	30	2.56	4	22	3	1	0	0
Electricity and Electrical Engineering	49	2.43	20	14	13	2	0	0
Hydraulic Engineering	6	1.94	5	0	1	0	0	0

Table 15. Continued.

SUBJECT	Total Ranked	\bar{x} Mean rank	# Ranked from 1. to 1.999	# Ranked from 2. to 2.999	# Ranked from 3. to 3.999	# Ranked from 4. to 4.999	# Ranked at 5	# Not Ranked
ENGINEERING (CONT.)								
Irrigation Engineering	4	1.50	4	0	0	0	0	0
Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering	24	2.05	10	12	2	0	0	2
Mines and Mining Industry	6	2.08	1	4	1	0	0	0
Nuclear Engineering	2	2.74	0	1	1	0	0	0
Solar Engineering	2	1.75	2	0	0	0	0	0
Thermoengineering	1	2.50	0	1	0	0	0	0
Transportation	18	2.17	7	9	1	1	0	1
Ceramics	2	1.00	2	0	0	0	0	0
FINE ARTS (TOTAL)	85	2.27	22	51	9	3	0	1
General Arts	42	2.51	4	33	4	1	0	0
Theatre Arts	12	2.00	4	4	4	0	0	0
Music	16	2.24	7	6	1	2	0	0
Landscape Architecture	6	1.58	3	3	0	0	0	1
Photography	9	2.01	4	5	0	0	0	0
NATURAL RESOURCES (TOTAL)	131	1.95	64	43	12	12	0	16
Conservation and Natural Resources	13	2.26	5	5	1	2	0	0
Environmental Studies and Ecology	56	2.04	24	31	1	0	0	0
Fishery Management	5	1.00	5	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Management	12	1.75	7	3	0	2	0	0
Forestry	27	2.52	11	1	9	6	0	3
Water Resources	8	1.00	8	0	0	0	0	8
Range Management	5	1.60	2	3	0	0	0	0
Outdoor Recreation and Activities	5	2.62	2	0	1	2	0	5
GENERAL PERIODICALS (TOTAL)	277	3.50	8	46	151	72	0	0
General Serials	121	3.73	1	12	65	43	0	0
General Science	81	3.16	6	20	45	10	0	0
Newspapers	75	3.50	1	14	41	19	0	0
HOME ECONOMICS AND FAMILY LIVING (TOTAL)	57	2.11	24	9	19	3	2	0
Clothing and Textiles	12	2.58	2	5	5	0	0	0
Child Development	10	1.47	7	3	0	0	0	0
Fashions	9	3.33	0	0	9	0	0	0
Interior Decorations	4	3.50	0	0	3	0	1	0
Household Administration and Consumer Affairs	16	1.79	10	1	2	3	0	0
Family Studies	6	1.83	5	0	0	0	1	0

Table 15. Continued.

SUBJECT	Total ranked	\bar{x} Mean rank	# Ranked from 1. to 1.999	# Ranked from 2. to 2.999	# Ranked from 3. to 3.999	# Ranked from 4. to 4.999	# Ranked at 5	# Not Ranked
HUMANITIES (TOTAL)	218	1.71	152	35	16	11	4	9
Folklore	4	1.06	4	0	0	0	0	0
Literature	89	1.59	68	15	2	4	0	0
Philology	63	2.06	35	10	10	5	3	0
Philosophy	31	1.76	20	4	4	2	1	1
Religion and Theology	20	1.18	18	2	0	0	0	8
General Humanities	11	1.67	7	4	0	0	0	0
LIBRARY SCIENCE AND INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA (TOTAL)	123	1.75	85	21	11	4	2	0
Instructional Media and Technology	13	1.27	11	2	0	0	0	0
Library and Information Science	78	1.85	54	12	7	3	2	0
Publishing and Book Industry	26	1.51	18	7	1	0	0	0
National Defense	6	2.50	2	0	3	1	0	0
HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY (TOTAL)	117	1.08	114	3	0	0	0	0
Classical Studies	8	1.00	8	0	0	0	0	0
Geography	24	1.07	24	0	0	0	0	0
General History	22	1.13	22	0	0	0	0	0
History of Africa	4	1.10	4	0	0	0	0	0
History of Europe	21	1.09	20	1	0	0	0	0
History of North and South America	33	1.09	31	2	0	0	0	0
History of the Far East	3	1.00	3	0	0	0	0	0
History of the Near East	2	1.00	2	0	0	0	0	0
PHYSICAL SCIENCES (TOTAL)	71	1.98	36	18	9	3	5	0
General Geology	44	1.77	25	11	4	1	3	0
Geophysics	11	2.91	2	4	3	2	0	0
Mineralogy	3	2.00	1	1	1	0	0	0
Paleontology	8	1.50	5	2	1	0	0	0
Petroleum	5	2.60	3	0	0	0	2	0
PURE SCIENCES (TOTAL)	301	1.46	216	65	18	2	0	3
Astronomy	8	2.15	1	7	0	0	0	0
General Chemistry	60	1.35	44	12	3	1	0	1
Analytical Chemistry	12	1.33	8	4	0	0	0	0
Electrochemistry	2	2.50	1	0	0	1	0	0
Inorganic Chemistry	8	1.00	8	0	0	0	0	0
Organic Chemistry	19	1.15	17	1	1	0	0	1
Physical Chemistry	17	1.70	11	0	6	0	0	0

Table 15. Continued.

SUBJECT	Total Ranked	\bar{x} Mean rank	# Ranked from 1. to 1.999	# Ranked from 2. to 2.999	# Ranked from 3. to 3.999	# Ranked from 4. to 4.999	# Ranked at 5	# Not Ranked
PURE SCIENCES (CONT.)								
Mathematics	78	1.22	64	14	0	0	0	0
General Physics	57	1.55	40	16	1	0	0	0
Heat	3	2.50	0	2	1	0	0	0
Mechanics	3	2.70	0	2	1	0	0	0
Nuclear Energy	9	1.77	6	2	1	0	0	0
Optics	16	2.01	10	2	4	0	0	0
Acoustics	3	2.50	0	3	0	0	0	0
Statistics	6	1.04	6	0	0	0	0	1
SOCIAL SCIENCES (TOTAL)	507	1.51	369	95	28	13	2	3
Anthropology and Archaeology	14	1.60	11	1	1	0	1	0
Criminology and Law Enforcement	9	1.43	8	1	0	0	0	0
Ethnic Interest	15	1.80	7	6	2	0	0	2
Housing, Urban Planning, and Regional Development	20	1.54	14	6	0	0	0	0
Law	75	1.56	49	21	3	2	0	0
Political Science	64	1.05	63	1	0	0	0	0
Civil Rights	2	1.25	2	0	0	0	0	0
International Studies	90	1.12	88	2	0	0	0	0
Public Administration	13	1.01	13	0	0	0	0	0
Municipal Government	3	1.00	3	0	0	0	0	0
Psychology	74	1.70	35	28	10	1	0	0
Behavioral Sciences	25	2.35	6	11	8	0	0	0
Social Studies and Sociology	40	1.67	27	10	1	2	0	0
Demography	6	1.00	6	0	0	0	0	1
Social Services and Welfare:	14	3.64	0	3	2	8	1	0
Point of View	36	1.47	30	5	1	0	0	0
Women's Interest	7	1.31	7	0	0	0	0	0
TECHNOLOGY (TOTAL)	92	2.72	27	27	22	8	8	0
Building and Construction	13	3.41	0	0	11	2	0	0
Computer Technology and Application	33	2.21	13	15	4	1	0	0
Heating, Plumbing, and Refrigeration	4	5.00	0	0	0	0	4	0
Instruments	9	2.94	0	6	2	1	0	0
Automotive Engineering	7	1.57	6	0	1	0	0	0
Machinery	6	3.75	0	1	2	2	1	0
Metallurgy and Metals Industry	14	2.53	5	5	2	2	0	0
Printing	3	5.00	0	0	0	0	3	0

Table 15. Continued.

SUBJECT	Total Ranked	\bar{x} Mean rank	# Ranked from 1. to 1.999	# Ranked from 2. to 2.999	# Ranked from 3. to 3.999	# Ranked from 4. to 4.999	# Ranked at 5	# Not Ranked
TECHNOLOGY (CONT.)								
Welding	3	1.00	3	0	0	0	0	0
FOOD AND NUTRITION (TOTAL)	43	2.21	19	14	10	0	0	0
Food Industries and Technology	26	2.44	7	11	8	0	0	0
Nutrition and Dietetics	17	1.85	12	3	2	0	0	0
	Total Journals Ranked	Total \bar{x} Mean rank	Total Ranked from 1. to 1.999	Total Ranked from 2. to 2.999	Total Ranked from 3. to 3.999	Total Ranked from 4. to 4.999	Total Ranked at 5	Total Not Ranked
TOTAL JOURNALS (3,498)	3,441	2.02	1,780	935	477	208	41	57

Appendix B

Correlation of Merrill Library Holdings
to ACRL Criteria for Volumes

The following list of holdings is taken from the Merrill Library Inventory Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1977.

Table 16. Merrill Library Holdings, June 30, 1977

Classified Books	287,496	volumes
Moore Library	12,807	volumes
Special Collections	26,366	volumes
And University Archives	1,706	linear feet of manuscripts
	7,800	photographs
	2,439	microfilm reels
	1,700	maps
	9,000	microfiche
	520	broadsides
Curriculum Materials Center	27,500	volumes
U.S. Federal Documents	128,289	volumes
	108,778	items
Microform Area	196,740	microcards
	238,864	microfiche
	13,015	reels of microfilm
Map Area	24,146	maps
Audio Visual Services	1,333	audio tapes
	2,231	motion picture titles
	38	educational games
	132	educational kits

Table 16. Continued.

Audio Visual Services (cont.)	950	film strips
Back Issue Journals	114,803	volumes
Total	1,206,653	

In order to determine which of these holdings meet ACRL criteria for volumes or volume-equivalents each area of the collection must be considered. Books classified according to the Dewey Decimal System are counted by actual physical volume rather than title. This meets the ACRL criteria. The same is true for the volumes at the Moore Library, the childrens divisions of the Merrill Library.

Special collections and University Archives houses University produced publications and those materials that are distinctive by reason of their rarity, cost, origin, special binding, illustration, or other features that in some way make them unique. It also serves as a depository for all materials relating to the history of the regions surrounding Utah State University. The book volumes are counted in accordance with ACRL criteria. Manuscripts, on the other hand, are measured in linear feet. While ACRL does not provide guidelines for directly determining volume-equivalents of linear feet, manuscripts do represent physical units of printed, typewritten, or handwritten work which have been cataloged and prepared for use.

This fully meets the ACLR requirements for "volumes." Assuming that an average of twenty-five volumes will fill a standard section of shelving three feet long, the 1,706 linear feet of manuscripts in special collections would represent approximately 14,200 volume-equivalents. The photographs and maps housed in special collections do not fulfill ACRL requirements for volumes. Photographs are not print materials and the maps are arranged as single sheets. Broad-sides can be counted as volumes as each one is stored in slip case and has been individually cataloged. Each Microfilm reel housed in special collections is considered as one volume-equivalent and the 9,000 microfiche represent 1,800 volume-equivalents according to the ACRL criteria. The 49,531 items reported in Special Collections and University Archives as of June 30, 1977 represent 26,886 actual volumes and 18,439 volume-equivalents.

The Curriculum Materials Center maintains a collection of the textbooks used in the State of Utah for kindergarten through the twelfth grade, as well as State curriculum guides, junior encyclopedias and other related materials. Its holdings of 27,500 represent an actual volume count. While these volumes have not been cataloged, they have been processed and arranged for use in a manner meeting ACRL guidelines.

The Merrill Library has housed United States Federal Documents as a selective depository since 1907 and as a regional depository since 1963. Federal publications received by the Library are reported as being either volumes or items. Volumes are distinguished as those materials that are: in hard binding; or in loose-leaf

binding; or classified with cutter numbers and over thirty pages in length; or which represent Congressional hearings. The remaining bulk of documents are considered as items. Items published individually tend, at some later date, to be collected together and bound as a volume. In these instances the collected items are subtracted from the item count and the new formed volume is added to the volume count. While both the items and the volumes recorded in this manner fulfill ACRL requirements and should be included in the count, the very method of their recording frustrates any attempt at a single compilation. One federal volume may contain the equivalent of ten or more items. The combination of items and volumes into a single unit count does not provide an accurate representation of either, but it must suffice as there is presently no other method for converting federal documents into ACRL volume-equivalents.

The Merrill Library houses a considerable number of microforms which reproduce serials, books, theses, research reports, and government documents in all subject areas. Each of the 13,015 reels of microfilm represents one volume-equivalent according to ACRL criteria. The 435,604 units of microfiche and microcards equal 87,120 volume-equivalents.

Maps, audio tapes, motion pictures, film strips and educational kits serve as important resources for the Merrill Library. According to the ACRL criteria, however, they cannot be included in the volume count.

The serial holdings of the Merrill Library comprise one of its most valuable collections in terms of both academic worth and annual

expenditures. The number of back issue volumes are determined by actual volume counts and the total of 114,803 volumes complies with the ACRL criteria.

The total number of volumes or volume-equivalents which meet ACRL criteria is 825,133. The following listing depicts the distribution of these holdings throughout the library.

Classified books	287,496
Moore Library	12,807
Special Collections	45,325
Curriculum	27,500
U. S. Documents	237,067
Microforms	100,135
Serials	114,803
TOTAL	825,133

Appendix C

Merrill Library and Learning Resources Program Budget

1973-74 through 1978-79

Table 17. Merrill Library and Learning Resources program budget, 1973-74 through 1978-79.

University Funds	1973-74 Actual	1974-75 Actual	1975-76 Actual	1976-77 Actual	1977-78 Projected	1978-79 Projected
Salaries	343,534	406,029	459,365	518,859	586,434	635,378
Staff Benefits	62,968	73,895	90,993	113,089	144,065	164,409
Current						
Books	131,318	79,627	198,804	69,219	164,500	187,760
Periodicals	160,003	176,278	258,400	153,640	305,500	325,000
Audio & Special	17,000	14,000	22,637	25,786	31,000	30,000
Operating	82,201	111,716	124,911	103,176	124,150	125,000
Total	<u>390,522</u>	<u>381,621</u>	<u>604,752</u>	<u>351,821</u>	<u>625,150</u>	<u>667,760</u>
Personal Services	118,573	124,679	123,840	144,941	120,568	123,209
Travel	6,342	8,139	8,885	6,810	6,081	6,081
Equipment	36,347	24,040	62,139	22,670	24,342	25,559
TOTAL	<u>958,286</u>	<u>1,018,403</u>	<u>1,349,974</u>	<u>1,158,190</u>	<u>1,506,640</u>	<u>1,622,396</u>
Legislative Permanent Adj for Books & Journals included in Budgets					42,000	38,100
Margin Adjustments						
Permanent (Books & Journals)	40,000					
Temporary (Books & Journals)	50,000	50,000	198,505	50,000	140,000	99,950 ^a

^aDependent upon Margin transfer

SOURCE: Presented in a special meeting of the Utah State University Faculty Senate, May 15, 1978.